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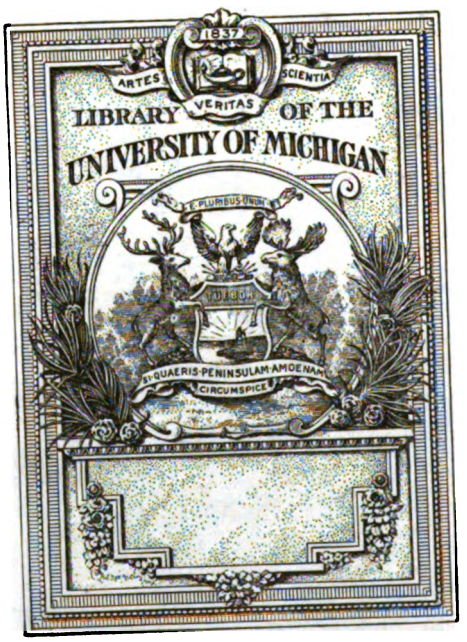

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CALENDAR

OF

VIRGINIA STATE PAPERS

AND

OTHER MANUSCRIPTS,

FROM

JANUARY 1, 1785, TO JULY 2, 1789,

PRESERVED IN THE CAPITOL AT RICHMOND.

ARRANGED AND EDITED

BY

WILLIAM P. PALMER, M. D., of VIRGINIA,

Under authority of the Legislature of Virginia.

PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION

BY

SHERWIN MCRAE,

Under authority of the Library Committee.

VOLUME IV.

RICHMOND:

R. U. DERR, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC PRINTING.

1884.

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WM. ELLIS JONES, PRINTER.

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PREFACE.

This Volume is the fourth of the Calendar of Virginia State Papers and other manuscripts, arranged and edited by WILLIAM P. PALMER, M. D., of Virginia, and will be found to contain much that is valuable for the future history of the State.

The period between July the 4th, 1776, and March, 1789, extending over more than twelve years, covers a distinct and peculiar era, in some aspects the most important in the history of the State. The events of this period, short as it is, were so influential on the destiny of the State, that the future historian of the Commonwealth will in it find much material for the best efforts of his pen. This volume extends from the first of January, 1785, to the second of July, 1789, an important part of the era mentioned; and it may be safely affirmed that no full and authentic history of the facts and events, contained in this volume, can be written without recourse to the papers which it records. The duty devolved on me, in connection with the manuscript of Dr. Palmer, enables me to state that this volume of the Calendar (as its predecessors) is marked by unusual accuracy and intelligent and judicious annotation.

SHERWIN McRAE.

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CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS.

1785.

Resolutions* of the General Assembly, appointing Commissioners to survey a Road from Lynche's Ferry, in Campbell Co., on James River, to the navigable waters running into the Ohio River, and for improving the navigation of the same; also Commissions to examine and fix upon the most convenient course for a Canal f'r connecting the waters of Elizabeth River, in Virginia, with those of North Carolina, &c. — Jan'y 1st — Internal improvements, roads and canal

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CARTER LITTLEPAGE TO GOV. HENRY. — Jan'y 5th

In regard to the unfair conduct of Mr. Godwin, of Nansemond, in securing for himself the Clerk-ship of that County, asks the Governor to suspend action for the present—adds, "Mr. Cochran will not dispose of his carriage. If you have not supplied yourself with Corn, I can purchase for you at Mr. Page's, of Broadneck, for 12s. (shillings) p'r Barrel." — Price of corn

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GEO. CLENDINEN TO GOV. HENRY. — Jan'y 5th

Sir:

As I am about to Depart from this City to-morrow, and have much at heart to promote the favor'd System of Improving the navigation of James River; also to have the Carrying Ground oppened from the navigation of S'd River to the nearest Branch of the New River that Empties In below the falls of the Same, I therefore shall proceed, as neer as my memory Serves me, to Describe the Distance between the navigation of Said Rivers, which is as follows: The Road to begin at the mouth of Dunlap's Creek, a Branch of Jackson's River, which Road must pass Lewisburg, in Greenbrier County, and from thence to Meadow River, which River carries in Gally River, and Gally River into New River, Below the falls. The Distance between said Rivers will not exceed thirty miles. The Road is already oppened from Dunlap's Creek to Lewisburg, — Richmond — Improvement of the westward road, &c — Distances, &c

*These appear in full on the Journal of the Legislature.

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1785. Jan'y 5th — so that waggons have pas'ed with Twenty-five Hundred. About ten Miles of the Road, which is from Lewisburg to Meadow River, is yet unimproved, and as the Executive have the appointment of some person to Improve and Clear the S'd Road, I have thought It my duty to Give thus much Information. Trusting that I may not be thought presuming when I ashure Your Excellency that I have not'ing In View but to favor'd the Said Work, as the Salvation of my Constituents, together with the very respectable number of Inhabitants that lives Between the waters of Monongayly and New River Depends on the speedy performance of said plan; and, lastly, that it will ever Cement them to the Interest of this State.

Effects thereof

I am your Excellency's very humble serv., &c., &c.

Jan'y 6th

JOHN THORNTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting the appointment of his friend, Presly Thornton, to succeed Col. Kenner, deceased, as County Lieutenant of Northumberland Co. "His military knowledge, and the affection the people entertain for him, would qualify him to execute it with a great deal of propriety; that however, with the utmost deference, I must submit to your superior judgement," &c.

Co. Lieutenant

Jan'y 6th *By his Excellency*, PATRICK HENRY, *Esq.*,

Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia:

A PROCLAMATION.

Richmond

WHEREAS, it is the wish of Government, by removing all cause, to eradicate every idea of jealousy and suspicion from the minds of the neighboring tribes of indians, and to evince a Disposition to act with friendship and Justice toward them, and the takeing possession of their Lands may tend to give rise to such unfavorable impressions, and involve us in the calamities of war, which are always considerably heightened in the cause of injustice, I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of the Council of State, and by virtue of an act of the present Session of Assembly, in that case made and provided, to issue this, my proclamation, commanding all Commissioners, Surveyors, and other persons, to suspend the taking possession or surveying of any Lands on the north west side of ye Ohio, or below the mouth of the river Tenesee, until they shall legally be authorized so to do, and calling on all persons who have already taken possession of such Lands, by the allegiance which they owe to this Commonwealth, forthwith to withdraw therefrom, and enjoining all officers, civil and military, to pay due obedience to, and assist in executing this proclamation, as all persons offending herein will answer for the consiquences, of a Contrary Conduct, at their peril.

To abandon the lands occupied on the n west side of the Ohio River and to the Tennessee

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Given under my hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth at Richmond, in the Council Chamber, this sixth Day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand and seven hundred and eighty-five, and ninth of the Commonwealth. 1785. Jan'y 6th

P. HENRY.

Attest:
A. BLAIR, *C. C.*

VIRGINIA IN ACCOUNT WITH DE BEAUMARCHAIS. Jan'y 6th

Amount due him as allowed by the Solicitor-General, nine hundred seventy-three thousand twenty-three pounds weight of tobacco.

L. WOOD, JR., TO THE EXECUTIVE. Jan'y 8th

Setting forth the difficulties and delays pertaining to his office, the principal duty of which is "to State Accounts against Debtors to the Publick for the Attorney-General, and under his directions to proceed to a recovery of the money." These accounts originate from the Auditor's Office, but the delay in that Department had required him to keep separate accounts with the Revenue Officers, which had very much increased his duties. This, together with the necessity of his remaining in Richmond during the Sessions of the Gen'l Courts and the Gen'l Assembly, constrained him to appeal to the Executive for an increase of pay, &c. Richmond Solicitor's office Duties of the office, &c

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JOHN P. DUVALL TO GOV. HENRY. Jan'y 11th

As he had just arrived at home from the Assembly, had heard nothing from the treaty with the Indians; no hostilities; but requests to be furnished with thirty blank Commissions to put the County in Condition of defence, as a precautionary step "againtst the Spring." Harrison co

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S. HARDY TO GOV. HENRY. Jan'y 17th

Sir:

I do myself the honour to transmit to your Excellency the enclosed Copy of a Memorial of some of the Citizens of Virginia praying to be indulged with a separate Government. It came enclosed in a letter from Arthur Campbell to the President of Congress, who I suppose was the parent of the scheme. New York

In my last I informed you of the removal of Congress from Trenton to

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1785. Jan'y 17th this place, and the passage of an Ordinance establishing the temporary and permanent residence of that body.

With great respect, I have the honour to be
Your Excellency's
mo. ob't and h'ble serv't, &c., &c.

MEMORIAL.

To the Honourable the Congress of the United States of America:

The memorial of the Freemen inhabiting the County Westward of the Allegany or Apalachian mountain, and Southward of the Ouasioto, Humbly sheweth:

That having been made acquainted with several Resolves and other Acts of Congress, respecting Western Territory, and having considered maturely the contents of the same, we are highly pleased with That equal respect for the Liberties of the People which seems to influence the Councils of Congress. That nothing but a firm adherence to the principles of the Confederation, and a sacred Regard to the Rights of mankind could produce the late Resolves for laying off new Independent States, thereby pointing out such effectual measures to prevent the encroachments of Arbitrary power on the Assylums of Freedom.

That we are happy to find so large a part of Territory already ceded to the United States for national purposes, and trust that every obstacle will speedily be removed for the completion of that business by the individual States affected thereby. That we are too much elated at the prospect before us not to wish that we may speedily enjoy the Advantages of such a Government as will be exercised over a convenient territory, not too small for the support of authority nor too large for the security of Freedom.

That our situation is such, inhabiting valleys intermixed with and environed by vast wilds of barren and inaccessible mountains, that the same compensation of latitude allotted to the new States northwest of the Ohio might prevent us from ever being on an equal footing with our neighbors, blessed with so many natural advantages, navigable Waters, and a level, fertile Country.

That a State bounded by a meridian line that will touch the confluence of Little River near Ingles Ferry, thence down the Kanhawa to the Ronceverte or Green Briar River, thence Southwest to Lattitude 37° north, thence along the same to the meridian of the Rapids of the Ohio, south along the meridian untill it reaches the Tenesee or Cherokee river, down the same to the part nearest of latitude 34° South to the same, and eastwardly on that parallel to the top of the Apalachian Mountains, and along the highest parts of the Samè, and the heights that divide the Sources of the waters that fall into the Mississippi from those that empty into the Atlantic to the Beginning. This, tho' not equal in quantity of habitable lands with the adjoining States, yet may be sufficient territory for a so-

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ciety that wishes to encourage industry and temperance as cardinal virtues. 1785. Jan'y 17th

That in our pressent settlements we have maintained our ground during the late perilous War, and frequently gave effectual aid to our Bretheren to the South and Eastward; that we are first occupants and aboringers of this Country, freemen claiming natural Rights, and the priviledges of American Citizens.

Our pray'r, therefore, is, that your Honourable Body, with a generous Regard to the Rights of mankind, would speedily erect the aforesaid described Territory into a free and Independent State, subject to the foederal Bond, and likewise confirm and guarantee to its Inhabitants all their equitable Rights and Priviledges acquired under the Laws of the States lately claiming this territory; that the disposition of the vacant lands be under the power of the Legislature of the new State, in as full a manner as that exercised by such of the Eastern States having unappropriated Lands, with this Reservation, that the monies arizing from the sale of vacant Lands shall be faithfully paid to the order of Congress, towards the payment of the National Debt.

And your Memorialists shall ever pray, &c.

Approved and subscribed by us, in behalf of ourselves, and the freemen of our Respective Districts, whom we Represent.

CHARLES CUMMINS, Chairman.
JOHN CAMPBELL,
JOHN JAMESON,
ROBT. BUCHANAN,
ALEX'R WILEY,
WILLIAM TATE,
GEORGE FINLEY,
JOHN KINCAR'D,
ARTHUR CAMPBELL,
THOS. WOOLSEY,
JOHN CAMPBELL, S'N'R,
RICHARD BROWNLOW,
JOHN DAVIS,
MATHEW WILLOUGHBY,
GILBERT CHRISTIAN,
JOHN ANDERSON,
DAVID LOONEY,
JOHN ADAIR.

The Auditors applying to the Executive for additional Clerks, the Gen'l Assembly having adjourned without making provision therefor. Jan'y 11th

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Richard Adams certifies that Joseph Jones had taken the "Oaths of fidelty to the Commonwealth, and of a privy Counsellor," as required by Law, &c. Jan'y 14th Jos. Jones qualifies as councellor

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1785. * B. STARKE AND J. PENDLETON, AUDITORS TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Jan'y 17th Auditor's office

Sir:

Your favor of the 14th Instant is now before us, and we are sorry to observe that the Supreme Executive should think so necessary an assumption of power as the appointment of Clerks to the Auditors' Board would expose them to the Smallest degree of Censure; but as it seems desired by them, for their own justification, that the necessity of such a measure should be more particularly explained, we now take the liberty of entering into a detail of every step, which has been taken relative to this Office. In 1778 a Board of Auditors was fully Established, with power to appoint two Clerks, and those two were found sufficient 'till the year 1780, when the business began to increase, and Continued increasing yearly ever since that period; and the Book-Keeper failing in 1781 to attend the Board, which became in a manner Itinerant, moving from place to place to avoid the Enemy, the posting-business of course fell greatly behind, and the evil daily increased 'till some time in 1782, not having it in our power to procure a proper Clerk for that Branch of business sooner, and tho' he is a very assiduous man, yet he has not been able to get the old Books farther fo'ward than Feb'y, 1783. The Assembly in the fall Session of 1781, upon an application from this Board for more assistants, thought proper, by a resolution, to allow two additional *temporary* Clerks. A resolution, of the like nature, has passed every Session since, 'till the last, and was prevented THEN only by the accident mentioned in our last; and indeed the Members of the Assembly, who were most active in the business, seemed deeply impressed with the necessity of giving the Executive full power to appoint any number of Clerks that might be found necessary to bring up the *old* business and keep forward the *new*. The last Spring Session a resolution passed, impowering the Executive to appoint any number of Clerks they thought proper, for the purpose of selecting from our Books the Expences of the Illinois department, which was accordingly done; but that business being now compleated, those Clerks are discontinued of course. At the same period another resolution passed, impowering the Auditors to appoint one Clerk, for the express purpose of making out transcripts of the Military Acc'ts, so long in our Office, for Mr. Dunscomb's government, in settling with the Military for pay since Jan'y, 1782.

History of the Auditor's office

Action of the Legislature

Special duty

U.S. military accounts, &c

From this state of the matter, it appears clearly that we are not authorized by any law or resolution to appoint more than two Clerks, (except the one last mentioned, who affords no aid in carrying on the business). We have, indeed, retained *four*, the number employed ever since 1782, with an expectation that the Executive would Sanctify the measure, and,

They depend upon the Executive

* This letter is recorded in full, because it is a history of the formation and development of this Department, and illustrates the jealous regard for proper authority by those in power for all their official acts.

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moreover, permit an appointment of *two* others, making six in the whole. We make this request, Sir, from a persuasion that fewer cannot put the Books and papers in our Office in such a Situation as the Assembly wish, and probably will expect, to find them at their next meeting. We cannot with precision say the number of hours each Clerk is employed every day in writing, but think that the two who keep the Books are engaged therein generally eight hours in the winter Season, and ten in the Summer—the other two not so much.

1785. Jan'y 17th

We are, with great respect,
Your Excellencies ob. and h'ble
Serv'ts, &c., &c.

THOS. JOHNSON, THOMAS STONE, SAML. CHASE, AND DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER, ESQUIRES.

Jan'y 19th

Appointed Commissioners on the part of the State of Maryland to meet the Commission'rs from Virginia to settle the terms of navigation and Jurisdiction over that part of Chesapeake Bay lying within the limits of Virginia; also over "the Rivers Potomack and Pocomoke," &c.

Maryland House of Delegates

WM. GRAYSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan'y 22d

A judgement had been rendered against the Sheriff of that County for £692 for arrears of Taxes of 1783. He urges the relief of that officer, on the ground that he was in no way to be blamed for this delinquency. It was due to the extreme scarcity of corn, and the poverty of a people who, up to that time, had cheerfully met every demand made upon them by the Government.

Dumfries, Va
The people unable to pay
The taxes of the past year

ROBT. MITCHELL, MAYOR, TO THE EXECUTIVE IN REPLY.

Jan'y 26th

A committee of the Common Hall had considered his Excellency's letter in regard to certain criminals in the Public Jail condemned to death, and had made their report thereon as follows: "Resolved, That Mr. Attorney be appointed to concert with the Executive a plan for applying the labour of those malefactors, who are now under sentence of death, and are intended to be pardoned on condition of working for the benefit of the City," but that the "Common Hall" can only furnish them food "while employed for the use of the City."

Richmond
Convict labor for the city

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1785. B. DANDRIDGE, P. LYONS, AND WM. FLEMING, JUDGES OF THE GEN'L COURT, TO GOV. HENRY IN REPLY.

Jan'y 26th Richmond

Sanctity of judicial decisions

They had met, out of respect due the Executive, to consider his several letters in regard to the case of John Tyler, convicted of the murder of his uncle, Joseph Tyler (for whom a pardon was asked), and regret that they had not retained full notes of the evidence on the trial; they should, therefore, have to rely upon their memories. But they can say with truth, "the unhappy man was convicted of the sad offence upon full evidence" to their satisfaction. They hope to be excused for expressing their doubts on this occasion "as to the propriety of assembling at so late a day to state facts or explain the grounds of judgements, solemnly given in open Court and recorded there, which may tend to weaken or injure the authority and just rights of the Judiciary, under the Constitution."

Jan'y 26th Pennsylvania, Wash. county

Copy *of the Judgement against Gabriel Cox, Geo. Vallandigham and Andrew Swearingen, in the suit of one Bays, in Washington County. Two hundred fifty-five Pounds, Damages and costs, for the Plaintiff.

Feb'y 5th

TURNER SOUTHALL TO GOV. HENRY.

Keeper of the keys of the capitol

The Directors of Public Buildings, from the time they had charge of the "Assembly house," had employed Mr. Zenas Taite to take charge of the keys, which he kept until the past summer, "when a small dispute happened between the Governor and the Directors," who sent the keys to him. The Governor delivered the keys to Mr. Taite, and continued him in the appointment, subject to his order. This step had relieved the Directors of any power to pay Mr. Taite his wages, and he now applies on his behalf to the Executive, who alone has the authority to do so.

Feb'y 6th

COL. LE MAIRE TO ——— (IN FRENCH).

Richmond

Foreign affairs

He forwards, without delay, two letters he brought from Europe. Public sentiment in France indicated that hostilities wuld certainly begin in the spring, "and *all the brave soldiers wish to see you at their head*" (Lafayette?).

"Surely Germany will not offer you fewer laurels than you have gained in America." The Emperor was to advance into Flanders, with a large force, and to the frontiers of Alsace with another. Prince Henry of Prussia would probably take command of Twenty thousand Frenchmen in

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*Bears impression of the County Seal of Washington.

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Flanders, &c. He then appeals to him for aid in view of his services in America, and who had been "deprived of alle his possessions by the enemy." The Council of Va. could bear witness of his services. He had also served in Massachusetts, when he had been honored with a Commission of Col. of Artillery. He had been in the French service since 1756; had been in the German wars, in that of the Corea, and six years in America. He has his Commissions. It was necessary that he should be received into the Order of Cincinnati, in order to obtain from the French ministry the necessaries of life. He therefore applies to his Excellency, as a "French officer and as a foreigner," that this order may be conferred upon him, as upon it depends his existence, &c.

1785. Feb'y 6th. His services in America and elsewhere. Desired to be admitted into the society of Cincinnati.

CHARLES HULSTEAT, SWEDISH CONSUL AT PHILADELPHIA, TO GOV. HARRISON. Feb'y 7th

Desiring his Exequator to be issued for Virginia, that he may be then recognized in the above capacity. Philadelphia

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Copy of a Brevet Commission of Lieut. Col. of Dragoons, granted to Jaques Le Maire by the Gov. and Council of Virginia, under act of Assembly passed Nov. 5th, 1779. Certified to by Gov. Henry, and Registered as an "Exemplification of the original," which he lost when "captured by the Enemy on his return to Europe." Feb'y 11th. Richmond. Col. Le Maire

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COL. SAM'L HOGDEN TO GOVERNOR HENRY. Feb'y 15th

The Public stores referred to, in his letter of the 31st ult., were under the control of Capt. Nath'l Irish, his Deputy, who had been sent to Virginia to take care of dispersed arms, &c. The Order issued by Congress for the Sale of Stores did not apply to Virginia, as it was intended to establish a Permanent deposite of Arms upon the Peace Establishment in that State, estimates for the erection of proper Buildings having been already made, &c. Philadelphia. Deposit of arms in Virginia

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*L. WOOD, JU'R, SOLICITOR TO GOV. HENRY. Feb'y 17th

Enclosing List of Delinquent Sheriffs, with judgements for the amounts of Taxes due from the several Counties under their charge for the year 1783. Richmond. Solicitor's office

* Forty Counties, more than three-fourths of the State, appear on this List.

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1785. Feb'y 17th Great delinquency in collecting the taxes, &c.

The aggregate deficit amounts to about Forty thousand Pounds, or nearly two hundred thousand dollars, a large sum of money at that date. Many of the largest and wealthiest counties are charged with the greatest amount of delinquency, viz: Albemarle, £2,304; Augusta, £1,253; Bedford, £2,489; Gloucester, £3,732; Henry, £3,245; Lunenburg, £1,627; Northumberland, £1,349; Powhatan, £1,121; Rockingham, £2,638; and Spotsylvania, $1,353. It will be observed the counties occupied by the armies during the Revolution appear to have been less delinquent than those more remote from the scene of military operations, viz: York, £134; Surry, £47; Prince George, £116; Northampton, £208; James City Co., £1. This state of things was doubtless chiefly due to the impoverished condition of the people consequent upon the ravages of war.

Feb'y 17th

*Wm. Douglas to Gov. Henry.

Providence Forge

Reluctantly declining to act as "Commissioner to view a work" of great "public utility" on account of the pressing demands upon his attention at that time of his own and other's interests.

Feb'y 19th

Col. George Skillern to Gov. Henry.

Botetourt

Vindicating himself against charges preferred by the Rev'd Adam Smyth.

Sir:

Charge of malfeasance in office

It has been suggested to me that a certain Adam Smyth, of this County, has exhibited to your Excellency an Accusation against me for missfeasance in my Judicial Capacity. Altho' I was Conscious your Excellency would adopt no measure in Consequence of such Information, without Confronting me with my accuser, yet to remove, in the meantime, even the shadow of Suspicion, I shall take the Liberty of stating the facts which gave birth to the Complaint.

Rev Adam Smyth

This reverend Gentleman, by virtue of an act of Assembly (which was obtained from *Ex-parte* information, from its having been repealed shortly after), had a Demand against the County to a considerable amount as arrears for his parochial Services, which was liquidated by the five Seniour magistrates according to Law. These arrearages accrued at a period when the Counties of Washington, Montgomery, Greenbrier, part of Rockbridge and the whole of Kentuckie District composed the Parish of Botetourt,

Bounds of Botetourt Parish

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* "Providence Forge" was in Chas. City Co., on the Chickahominy River, near the point now known as the "Forge-Bridge." No vestige of it remained or could be discovered until a recent flood in the river so changed the surface of the contiguous banks as to disclose a number of castings, wheels, shafts, and other remains that had long been buried under the deposites of previous overflows of this fickle stream.

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and previous to the fearfull emigrations which have taken place from this to different Quarters of the world; from which considerations the present Parish of Botetourt thought it unreasonable that they should be charged with the whole of the debt incurred by the former parish. This, I confess, was my opinion; an opinion which I had repeatedly and Publickly announced. Conformable to these ideas I had subscribed and handed about a petition to the general assembly, not doubting but that they would discover and relieve us from the Imposition before the Law—according to the usual progress of business—should be carried into effect. At a Court subsequent to this, about eight o'clock at night, when we were about to adjourn, and had barely a Court, the Rev. Gent, startled at the remonstrances in the petition, makes a motion to obtain Judgment for the above sum of money. On this occasion Delicacy forbade my sitting in a cause In which I had publickly given my opinion, and Concerning which I had petitioned the general assembly. On my refusal to sit, a court could not be Procured, the motion was Consequently dropt. If my was reprehensible I am not yet Sensible of it, and it is an Error in Judgment, unaccompanied with any ill Intention, which I am happy in feeling a Conviction is the worst that can be said of my Transactions. I have had the honour of Serving in a Judicial Capacity for near twenty years, and in a military Capacity almost the whole of the war, without a single Allegation against me, Either at home or abroad, and I trust that this first Complaint will prove the Child of resentment rather than reason.

1785. Feb'y 19th

Real cause of his complaint

I am Sir,
with respect and Esteem, Your
Excellency's most obd't and
most Humble Serv't, &c., &c.

CAPT. JOHN PEYTON TO COL. THOS. MERIWETHER. Feb'y 20th

He had just returned from the Lead mines, and had brought with him "the Public negroes" that were at that place, except "one Fellow by the name of Fielding who deserted the mining before I started, one wench and three children, the weather being too cold to move the children." He had put "the wench and children" in care of Robt. Saunders. Col. Crockett had promised "to use his endeavors in having Fielding apprehended," &c. * * * Three of the public negroes were at Col. Lynch's (Lynch's Ferry, now Lynchburg). * * * * "The public lead at the mines I had weighed; the amt. 74,000 lbs.; it's stored in a good House, under the care of Mr. Robt. Saunders, who lives at the place, and who will take care of it till further orders, or till called on by Mr. McGaffoc," who had been requested by the Governor to take charge of it. "The expence in moving it to Mr. McGaffoc's will be something considerable, being distant 7 or 8 miles, and no nearer this place than at present."

Point of Fork Negro slaves belonging to the State

Amount of lead at the mines

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1785. Feb'y 20th

His not returning in time from the mines had prevented his examining the Continental arms, Powder and other stores at New London. Mr. Wm. Price did the business, and make no doubt with the greatest exactness," &c.

Feb'y 21st Cabbin Point

Appointed commissioner to arrange for the canal between Elizabeth river and the North Carolina waters.

Wm. Ronald to Gov. Henry.

He had received his Excellency's letter notifying him of his appointment "as one of the Commissioners on the Canal Business." He had hoped some gentleman better informed than himself on this subject would have been found willing to take that place, and he still hopes this may be done. But should it be otherwise he will cheerfully do all in his power "to forward a scheme which will be extremely beneficial both to the trading and landed Interest of this Country."

Feb'y 22d

Point of Fork

Capt. John Peyton to Colo. Meriwether.

Mr. Wm. Price will deliver the Returns of the last Quarter's Transactions at that Post. He has six month's provisions and forage on hand. * * * * If the Public negroes are to continue there, he recommends the policy of renting a farm, and employing half of them in making corn and oats; the other half, with the guards, could be kept at cleaning arms, getting coal, wood, &c.

Feb'y 24th

A Return of White Persons and Buildings in Amelia Co.

Whites	3941
Dwelling Houses	1185
Other houses, 2793, and Log-houses	106

Feb'y 25th

Spencer Roane to Gov. Henry.

Sir:

Essex co.

Importance of selecting good officers, &c

Your Excellency's Letter of 22d ulto. respecting a Recommendation of Militia field officers has been rec'd and consider'd by a majority of those to whom it is addressed in this county; and it is at their particular Request that I beg your Excellency to be more explicit in the designation of those you have appointed to make the Recommendation. For this purpose the Letter is sent back.

There is no such person in this County as John Clements, and it is not understood who is meant by ——— Upshaw. The Gents named in your Letter, Sensible of the Importance of the Trust, are anxious that other respectable characters in the County may be added to the present

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nomination, so that the Choice may be most juidicious, and give some satisfaction to the County. 1785. Feb'y 25th

The Bearer of this Letter, Capt. James Upshaw, a gent. of Estimation and character in this County, will be able to give your Excellency the best and most Creditable Information respecting the gentlemen in it.

I have the honor to be, with Respect,
Y'r Excellency's mo. ob't
and mo. h'ble Serv't, &c., &c.

Petition (in French) of Col. Jaques Le Marie to the Executive of Virginia.[a] Feb'y 26th

He had come to America to serve, by permission of the French Court, in 1777. Had been commissioned and sent to France by Virginia on the 18th March, 1778, to procure military Stores; had remained there eighteen months executing this commission, and had sent heavy Artillery and other stores, which, fortunately, had Safely arrived in Virginia. He then embarked for America, and landed at Boston Aug. 30, 1779, from a vessel, the "Courier," belonging to Messrs. Penet, DaCosta & Co. This vessel had on board goods for Virginia, for which he had become responsible before they were allowed to be landed. The ship had been under Convoy of the French Frigate "La Sensible," which carried M. LeChev. de la Lauzune. The goods, to the value of 40,000 livres, were stored with Mr. Cushing & Son, in Boston, and he set off for Virg'a to give an account of his mission. Richmond Employed to procure arms, &c Landed at Boston with the Chev. de la Lauzune

The Gov. and Council approved his Conduct, endorsed his management of the interests of the State, and offered him a sum of money as a gratuity, which he refused. Soon afterwards the Hon'bl. Council made him an offer of 10,000 acres of Land, which he accepted. This was in Nov., 1779, the Assembly in Session and Mr. Jefferson Gov'r, and the Council wrote a complimentary letter of him, which was read to them by Mr. Harrison, their Speaker. He had never gotten a title to the 10,000 acres of Land, which was afterwards reduced to 2,000 acres. To this land he had never been able to get a title, and he now returned to America to look after his interests. He had been paid the advances made in France, but in currency so depreciated that he had lost very heavily. This, with his losses in Boston, had reduced him to abject poverty, and while in Massachusetts he had solicited and received an appointment equal to a Colo. of Artillery, in charge of Fortifications; aftewards he had returned to Virginia and given his services—was at the Siege of York, and after the surrender of the Enemy returned to Boston to embark for his home. Here he found a ship and paid his passage, "ten half —— in advance," but after all lost his passage, and was left with nothing, not "even a shirt upon my back," and "but for the assistance of a respectable American lady, I should have perish'd with want. She was so good as to support me, and I have The Executive approve his conduct and give him land, &c Service in Massachusetts Kindness of a lady, &c

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1785. Feb'y 26th — Embarks for France, is taken to Jamaica

not, to this day, had ye means of making her a recompense, tho' it is a debt of ye most sacred kind." He had nothing left then but his watch, which he gave for his passage to St. Domingo, but on the voyage was captured by a Privateer of Providence and Carried to Jamaica, where he heard that the vessel on which were his effects, his Commission and other valuable papers, had been taken by the Ulyses, an English ship. He had proof of all these facts. He had never rec'd a farthing of his pay as Lieut.-Col. of Dragoons in Virginia, and trusts this may be allowed, if not he will not complain, but begs he may be furnished a Duplicate Commission, very important to him, to be used with the French Ministry. He begs also to know the intention of the Governm't in regard to his Lands. Such being the history of the Career and misfortunes of an unfortunate Soldier who had served their Country five years, he trusts his appeal for relief may not be lost upon "Souls like yours, full of Sensibility and honor." He adds:

Desires to become an American citizen

"I have also, Sir, a favour to beg of you, that you will Suffer me to be naturalized here and become an American citizen, as I wish to finish the sad Career of my Life in the Shade of Liberty—too happy if one day my faithfull services to your Country may make me really worthy of the title of a good Citizen and attract your Esteem and benevolence.

"I am, &c.,
LE MAIRE."

March 1st — Urbanna, Middlesex county

F. CORBIN TO THE GOVERNOR.

In regard to re-organizing the militia. The people not reconciled to the Militia Law.

March 4th — Richmond

ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

Giving reasons why he cannot consider favorably the claim of Col. Charles Harrison, "late command't of Artillery in the Southern Army," who, he says, "stands on the aforementioned return as deranged on the first of January, 1783." The State had but one company of artillery in the field, and having been ordered by the Com. in chief of the S. Army to take command of the artillery, he had done so until it was furloughed.

March 5th — Havana

OL. POLLOCK TO GOV. P. HENRY.

He is still in prison on account of debt incurred by advances made to the State of Virginia. Makes a draft upon the State, and writes to the Governor: "I hope your Excell'y will in turn pay the same honor to my signature as I have done to *yours* at the *critical moment* for a much larger sum, for which and my other advances for your State, I and my family are reduced to implore as a charity what is due by common justice."

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COL. THOS. MERIWETHER 1785.

Reports Capt. Peyton's quarterly returns of the Quarter-Masters' Department to be correct, &c. March 5th

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ROBT. ANDREWS TO THE GOVERNOR, March 5th

Resigning his position as one of the Commissioners for establishing the boundary line between the States of Virginia and Pennsylvania, "having completed the necessary astronomical observations, and extended Mason & Dixon's Line to the distance of five Degrees of West Longitude from the Delaware, &c." The only thing remaining to be done "is to run a due North Line from the South West corner of Pennsylvania, which we have established to the Ohio, a work which any one acquainted with the methods of determining the Variation of the Needle may perform." He further begs this indulgence, in as much as his "Department in the College would be materially affected by such an absence as another Western Expedition must occasion." Williamsburg

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ROBERT ANDREWS TO GOV. HENRY, March 9th

Acknowledging the receipt of his appointment as one of the joint Commissioners "to examine and fix on the most convenient course for a canal between the waters of Elizabeth River in this State, and those passing through North Carolina." He accepts the position, and recommends a meeting of the Commission's to be held in May, giving good reasons therefor, and asking to be informed, as soon as practicable, whether Messrs. Carrington and Ronald, the other members of the Board, will agree to this proposal. Williamsburg

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J. AMBLER TO THE GOVERNOR, March 16th

Stating the meagre condition of the Treasury, and requesting authority from him to draw on the Contingent fund for any further disbursements. Treasury office

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FOSTER WEBB TO GOV. HENRY, March 16th

Presenting the claim of Daniel Clark, already approved by the Genl. Assembly, upon the acceptance of Gov. Harrison in 1782. Richmond

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1785. PRINTED PROCLAMATION, BY CONGRESS,

March 16th Offering reward for the detection and apprehension of counterfeiters, with written endorsement of the same by the Governor of Virginia, and adding to the amount of the reward offered.

March 18th ANDREW DUNSCOMB

Richmond Qualifies, under oath, as Commissioner of Military Claims against the United States.

March 20th WM. MAYO, JNR., TO GOV. HENRY,

Powhatan In behalf of Colo. Harris, late one of the Collectors, the settlement of whose accounts had been delayed by the suicide of one of the employées of Mr. Mosby, under whom he had acted.

March 20th EVAN SHELBY TO GOV. HENRY.

He had received the Land warrant that had been sent to him by Gov. Jefferson; had put it into the hands of his son, Isaac Shelby, who had located it upon a "Piece of extraordinary fine Land." As soon as he could hear from his son, he should reply to all the Governor's enquiries relative thereto.

March 21st JAMES HAYES TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Richmond Thanking them for the offer made him "to print Baron Steuben's Regulations," but declining to do so because he should thereby be prevented from completing the public work with proper dispatch.

March 22d At a Court held for the County of Fairfax, 22 March, 1785—

PRESENT.

George Mason, Charles Broadwater, Alex. Henderson, George Gilpin,	John Gibson, David Stuart, and William Payne,	Gents. Justices.

A new Commission for this County, signed by the Hon'ble Benjamin Harrison, Esq'r, late Governeur of this Commonwealth, being this day

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1785. March 22d

presented and read, whereby the Justices of the County are constituted and appointed *de novo*, and consequently are required to take the oaths of Qualification over again, notwithstanding they had before taken them under the Commonwealth, and several of the Justices have been many years acting Magistrates, by virtue of former Commissions, for this county. The Court, unanimously, refuse to receive, and do protest against the same, for the following Reasons :

Because such Commissions wou'd occassion an unnecessary multiplication and Repetition of Oaths, rendering them common and familiar, and thereby corrupting the morals of the people and weakening the most sacred Bands of Society, and one of the best Securitys, both for public dutys and private property.

Because such a Commission wou'd afford a dangerous pecedent and tend to renew, in this Commonwealth, one of the many abuses and arbitrary practices of the late monarchical Government here, Yielding to the Secretary an unnecessary fee, and to the Governeur and Council an unjust and oppressive power of insulting or turning any man out of his office of a civil magistrate, as prejudice, Malice, or Caprice might dictate, without a hearing, or without a cause of Complaint against him; for the constituting and appointing the former acting Justices *de novo*, necessarily implies the power of vacating the former Commissions; that the Justices derive their office entirely from the last, and, consequently, that by issuing a new Commission and misplacing any man in it, he wou'd lose his Rank, and might be degraded from the first to the last Justice in the County; or by leaving out any Justice's name, he wou'd thenceforward be deprived of his office, both of which, it is notorious, were frequently practiced under the former Government.

Because it is concived that the Exercise of such a power is altogether illegal, giving to the Executive Department of the State an undue and dangerous Influence over the Courts of Justice, directly contrary to the Declaration of Rights, and to the fundamental principles of our free Government.

And altho' this Court hath no cause to believe that the present Commission was issued for any such evil purposes, yet we shou'd think we were deficient in the duty we owe to our Country and to posterity, if we suffered ourselves to become accessory to establishing a precedent evidently tending to introduce them, and by renewing the oppressive maxims and practices of the Government, from which we have so lately been rescued by force of arms, to Sap the foundations of that Liberty which has been purchased at the expense of so much Blood and Treasure.

Ordered, that the Clerk of the Court transmit a Copy of this protest to the Executive.

Teste:

P. WAGENER, Cl'k C't.

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1785. COL. JOHN CALLOWAY TO MAJOR JOHN WARD,

March 22d Medow Hill — Enclosing his recommendation as sheriff by the Co. Court of Campbell; and adding, "Mr. Steptoe tells me that Temperate living is by no means best for you at this time, but that to make pretty free with the best of liquors will certainly be an advantage." He wants to borrow "20 dollars or less."

March 23d — PETITION OF LEWIS REY,

New Kent co Rappée snuff — Begging to be relieved from payment of duty on ten barrels of Rappée snuff, which he had manufactured in Petersburg, Va., for the French army while in Virginia. They had suddenly left for Philadelphia, whither he had sent the snuff, but the French having embarked from that place, it was left in Store for a time, and reshipped to Virginia. For this he had been charged one shilling pr. pound duty, under the misapprehension of the Collector that the snuff had been imported from abroad.

March 26th — COL. JOSEPH MARTIN TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

Henry co — I returned last evening from the Indian country, after taking a tour thro' the Valley and middle settlements; also the different Cherokee towns bordering on South Carolina and Georgia. I find the Indians there very

Indians friendly — friendly, being well satisfied with the said States, as they have run a Line, agreable to Treaty, and have effectually prevented the citizens from encroaching on their Lands. What is called the Middle-Grounds, which lies between the Creeks and Cherokees, is settled by both Parties. There is great disorder amongst them, as Scott and McDonald Live amongst them, with a number of disorderly whites, who refuse to come in, and are daily urging the Indians to steal horses from the frontiers of Virginia and North Carolina, which they send to the Floridais, &c. The people over

Disaffection in N. Carolina, State of Franklin — the mountains in North Carolina have declared themselves independant of that State; have chose a Governor and Council of their own; also have elected dellegates, and are now seting in General Assembly. They call their State Franklyn. I have enclosed Governor Martin's letter to me on that subject, by which your Excellency may form an Idea of what is Like to be done there. They intend to lay of a new county south of french Broad River, in the lands reserved by the State of North Carolina for the Indians, which county so laid of will include some of the towns the Indians are now in a Liveing. Capt. Cocke is choose a member of

Delegates chosen. — Congress, who sets out about the tenth day of April, which, if they proceed, will undoubtedly involve the States in war with the Indians. Hubbard, that murdered Butler, is one of their delegates, that has provoked

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1785.

the Indians much, as they now despair of his being brought to Justice, and, as I suppose, have attempted to take satisfaction at the house of one Cox, near the end of Clinch Mountain, where an attack was made the the 10th Instant. The dammage done there was one horse kil'd. On the 12th ult. one Hugh Logan and one Gibson, came into the neighborhood of Long Island, who inform that on the 12th of February last they were taken prisoners by the Creek Indians, and were carried by them as far as the head of Mobeal. That they were black't and was to be burnt; that They made their escapes one night; that they travailed seven days without sustenance; at last fell in with Some of the Chickamauga Indians, who Took Care of them and sent them to the old towns. They say one of the Indians that took them talks good English, who informed them that they had taken four scalps from Cumberland and a negro boy. That they had been trying to provoke the Virginians to fight them ever since he was a Little boy, But that Virginians would not be angry with them. That they, this year, intended to watch the Kentucky Road, also to attack Cumberland settlements and Roast the S'd Prisoners Jackets, and Se if that would not provoke the Virginians. I also have enclosed a copy of a Letter from Ellis Harlin, who is just from Chiccamauga. On the the 17th Instant a party of Indians Came to the house of John Wallin, Killed and Scalpt his wife, about fifteen miles from my Station, and I further expect every hour to heare That the people there are all murdered. Colo. Campbell never sent the men out Agreeable to Governor Harrison's Orders. I laid in provisions for them Agreeable to my Instructions. * * * * * I intended down this Spring, in order to settle my accompts Generally. I could, by no means, Collect the Skins due the Publick, as I was forc'd to let part of the Goods out to Traders when I went to trade with the Chicasaws; they have let them out on credit. * * * * They say the Spaniards, who have been all the winter at Chicamauga, have got Greatest Part of the Skins and Furr from the Indians. * * * * * I applyed to several Officers in Washington County, on my way out, for men, Agreeable to Governor Harrison's Order. They all say they have no authority. That Being the Case, I must assure Your Excellency that about three Years past I was appointed Lieuten't-Colo. in the Second Battalion of Washington Militia, under Colo. Smith, who has since remov'd to Cumberland. I am now the Eldest officer in that County except Colo. Campbell and Edmonson. * * * I should Be glad my Commission could be forwarded to me in Case of Invasion, which daily threatens That quarter, &c.

March 26th

Indian outrages

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1785. COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. HENRY.

Sir:

March 27th Washington co Indian outrages

Since my last by Capt. Rhea, I am informed that two families was Kill'd and Captivated by the Indians the 24th instant, on that part of Clinch call'd new-Garden, which is nearly north of the Salt Works, and about 20 miles distant from thence. The families consisted of fifteen in number, and from appearances it is concluded the misceif was done by the Shawanesse. Since the murder of Mrs. Walling, which I mentioned in my last, a Mrs. Cox was Shot at by three Indians, but happily escaped.

Dislike to the militia law

* * * The Temper of the People, from the dislike they have to the new militia Act and other meassures of government, is such that our defences may be very precarious in case of a general Indian war. Motives of humanity only now induce me to trouble your Excellency, not knowing who is intrusted with the charge of the County.

I am sir, &c.

March 30th JOHN FITCH TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Philadelphia

He had been informed by Doct'r Johnston that his "going over the Ohio River had been very unfairly represented" to his Excellency. He was glad to hear a more "Candid representation of the matter" had been given, and that his Excellency's apprehensions, on account of his visit to the Indians, were allayed. He adds: "I have traversed the Country on the N. W. Side of the Ohio, first as a forlorn captive, and since as a free-man, but with the most upright views. Expecting the Lands there would

His motives for crossing the Ohio

be sold Shortly, I was led to Explore the Country more minutely to spy out the choicest and best spots, hoping such knowledge, joined to my Skill in surveying (in which business I have had the honor to Serve Virginia), might be of use to me at another day. In the meantime, instead of provoking, I Soothed the Savages by presents and otherwise," &c. * * * "Should your Excellency, or the State of Virginia, at any time have occasion for a man who has been often intrusted and ever faithful—who has the most perfect knowledge of the N. W. parts of the United States of perhaps any man in the States—be pleased to know that such a man resides Sometimes in Philadelphia, where he will be happy to be honored with your Excellency's Commands."

March 31st BOND OF RICHARD TAYLOR,

As naval officer at the "Falls of Ohio," District of Kentucky, in place of John Campbell.

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H. RANDOLPH 1785.

Transmits to the Governor a "State of the Debts due Foreign Creditors, &c., after deducting 35¾ p'r c't on Mr. Pollock's Balance, to place him on an equal footing with the other Creditors," &c. March 31st Auditor's office Pollock

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JOHN PAGE TO GOV. HENRY. March 31st

Sir:

Your Letter directed to me, Warner Lewis, Esq'r, and five other Gentl'm. desiring us to recommend Field officers for the militia of Gloucester, was received by me and transmitted without delay to the other Gent'm. a majority of whom, viz: M. Andersen, F. Willis, and Phil. Tabb, Esq'r's, and myself met. After application to the County Lieut., S'r J. Peyton, for the Return of the militia Captains, which might enable us to determine whether it would be necessary to recommend Field Officers for one or two Battalions, but though reasonable Time was given for making such Returns, we have received so few that we can but guess at the number of militia, and as we are anxious to have the Assistance of Some valuable officers of the late army now returned Home and settled amongst us, we wish much to find that we may have two Battalions, which will make room for them all, &c. Rosewell

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It appears from the Registers of Certificates issued by John Pierce, Esq'r, Commissioner of Army Accounts, that the whole amount of Issues from the Commencement thereof to the 17th March, 1785, is Ten million Five hundred and fifty-nine Thousand, four hundred and twenty-eight Dollars and ⅔₃₃ths ($10,559,428.⅔₃₃ths.) War settlement for Virginia

M. HOPKINS.

To this Mr. Pierce says may be added about two millions more, issued since the printed books.

LIST OF WHITE PERSONS, NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES, Harrison co

And other houses taken under "an act entitled an act to ascertain the quantity of Land, the Improvements thereon, and the number of People," &c.

White Persons	1,507
Dwelling houses	209
Other houses	121

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1785. LIST OF WHITE PERSONS, DWELLINGS AND OTHER HOUSES.

Princess Anne county

White Persons	3,995
Dwelling Houses	785
Other houses	2,214

April 1st THOS. MERIWETHER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

Resigns as commissioner.

The great deal of business in which I am engaged, as a Commissioner of Army Acco'ts and as Clerk to the Council, requires such intense application that my health must be injured or the duties of those appointments neglected. I therefore request of your Excellency permission to resign, in the character of a Commissioner, and intreat the Honorable Board to receive my grateful acknowledgements for the confidence they have been pleased to place in me. I further beg that your Excellency will permit me to recommend Capt. Abner Crump as a person fully qualified to discharge the duties of a Commissioner. Capt. Crump is an officer of acknowledged merit, and served from the commencement to the end of the late War.

I am, &c.

April 4th CERTIFICATE OF JAS. INNES,

Williamsburg

In regard to the rank claimed by Major Alex. Dick. He, Innes, qualified as a member of the Board of War in July, 1779; resigned in March, 1780. Major Dick having returned in 1779 "from his captivity in Europe," applied to the Board for his rank, and exhibited his commission, signed by Gov. Jefferson. Capt. Abner Crump certifies to the validity of his claim also.

April 7th TURNER SOUTHALL AND JAMES BUCHANAN,

Richmond

Directors of Public Buildings, recommend to the Gov. and Council certain improvements of the Public Jail, "to prevent designing and wicked People approaching the Prison walls, and thereby rendering it unsafe for the Keeper to go from his House to the Prison, either by day or night," &c.

April 9th BOLLING STARK TO GOV. HENRY,

Richmond

Asking to be appointed Collector of Customs for the "Elizabeth-River District."

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JAMES MCGAVOCK TO GOV. HENRY, 1785.

In regard to the Safety of the "Publick Lead" at the mines. He will cheerfully do what may be further directed, except that he will "not, by any means, concern with it if it is to remain where it is." April 10th

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CHAS. CIST, IN REPLY TO THE CLERK OF THE GEN'L ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA, April 11th

Giving estimates of cost of printing the Continental military Regulations, adopted by Virginia as the rule of Discipline for the militia of that State. Philadelphia

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JOHN REVELEY TO THE EXECUTIVE, April 11th

Praying for relief from his embarrassments as Superintendent of the Public Furnace. He had not been able to "blow," it since the war, for "Sundry reasons," and the death of his partner, John Ballendine, had added to his troubles. He particularly desires to call attention to the inequality of the Land Tax, every acre belonging to the Furnace being taxed at the rate of 20 shill's p'r hundred, "whilst Land of equal Quality adjoining does not exceed 2s. 6d." Buckingham Furnace / Buckingham Furnace / Land tax

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JOHN PAGE TO GOV. HENRY. April 12th

Sir:

Having been deputed by the Parish of Abingdon to attend the Deputation of the Protestant Episcopalians at Richmond in May, and being peculiarly circumstanced with Respect to my Family and private affairs, I must beg your Excellency and the Board will be pleased to appoint Some Person in my Stead to act as Commissioner on the Part of Virginia to see the western Boundary of Pennsylvania run out, &c. * * Rosewell

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M. SMITH TO GOV. HENRY, April 15th

Resigning his position as member of the Council. Tappahannock

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1785. *THOMAS JEFFERSON TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

April 15th Paris

Sir:

I had the honor of informing your Excellency, in my letter of Feb. 3, that I had received and presented Mr. Alexander's bill on Laval & Wilfelsheim; that they had refused to pay it; that I had had it protested, but on their saying they would then accept, I had sent it to them again, but receiv'd no answer, when I was obliged to send off my letter. They returned it to me accepted, paiable in London, a trick by which you would have lost about 8 per cent., the exchange between this place and London being now and having been a long time that much to the disadvantage of this country. They had written this so illegibly, and so hid the words "á Londres" in a corner of the note, that it escaped me, as it did even Mr. Grand, through whom the note was returned to me; and this was never discovered till the day came when they should have paid it. They then insisted the demand should be made in London. After a course of chicanery, the detail of which would be tedious and only shew their rascality, they have agreed to pay in Paris the 19th instant. I sent to them yesterday to inform them I was to write this day on the subject of the bill, and to know whether I might rely that there would be no further difficulties. They said I might; yet, have they so totally destroyed my confidence in them that I am far from being satisfied on this subject. I had not meant to have required actual paiment till Mons. Houdon should be setting out to America; but as I find them to be men who might fail me in the instant when it should be wanted, I shall draw the money out of their hands as soon as I can and lodge it with Mr. Grand. I must at the same time inform you that nothing more is settled yet with Mons. Houdon. He was taken ill immediately after the writing my l't'r to your Excellency, and has been a considerable part of the time in a situation quite despaired of. He is now out of danger, but not well enough to think of business. The picture of Genl. Washington is come safely to hand.

I have the honour to be with due respect,
Your Excellency's most obed't.
and most humble serv't.

April 16th Danbury, North Carolina

HIS EXCELLENCY, ALEXANDER MARTIN, ESQUIRE, GOVERNOR, CAPTAIN-GENERAL, AND COMMANDER-IN-CHEIF OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

To all whom these presents may come, or in any wise concern, greeting:

Certificate of Colonel J. Martin's efficiency, &c

These are to certify that Col. Joseph Martin hath been appointed Agent to the Cherokee nation of Indians by this State for some years past, the

*Autograph letter.

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duties of which appointment he hath discharged faithfully to the satisfaction of the General Assembly and the Executive of this State; and hath also conducted himself among those Indians in such a manner as to gain their general esteem and good will. He appears to be a gentleman well versed in Indian affairs, and discovers great capacity in the management of them. 1785. April 16th

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms, at Danbury, the sixteenth Day of April, Anno Domini 1785.

ALEX. MARTIN.

By His Excellency's Command,
P. HENDERSON, P. Sec'y.

JOS. MARTIN TO GOV. P. HENRY. April 17th

Having enclosed a certificate of his services from Gov. Martin of North Carolina, he trusts his Excellency will also grant him one, and that the two be forwarded to Congress with the offer of his services as Indian Commissioner for the entire Southern Department. He thinks this would "baffle Capt. Cocke and his nephew, Ellis, and render singular service to this State." * * * * * * He adds: "Gov. Martin Tells me he is well informed that the Greatest part of the Cherokee and Creek Indians are for warr, occasioned by the State of Franklyn passing an Act to Extend their Boundery within Twenty of Chota without Holding any Treaty with them. He also informs me that he has Declined holding any Treaty with the Indians, as the people over the mountains has separated themselves from North Carolina." Smith's river. State of Franklyn.

M. OTTER ANNOUNCES TO GOV. HENRY April 22d

His appointment as French Consul, and requests the fact be made public as soon as practicable. Williamsburg

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ANDREW ELLICOTT TO GOV. HENRY, April 22d

Requesting an advance of one hundred Pounds for the purchase of Instruments and for other expenses incident to "experiments in the western Country this ensuing Season." Baltimore

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MARIA DIGGES TO GOV. HENRY, April 23d

Asking for an appointment in the Civil Department for her brother, Capt. Edward Digges. He had raised "five quota of men for His Country" in the late war, and "will be happy to do all in his Power now and ever," &c. Williamsburg

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1785. COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOV. HENRY.

Sir:

April 23d Blandford. Made county, lieutenant, &c

Sometime ago the Committee of this county, unsolicited by me, did me the honor to recommend me to your Excellency, as a proper person for the post of County Lieutenant—a post of no moment to myself and for which I would not expose myself to the murmer of a Single individual. Should there be known to your Excellency any person in the County dissatisfied with the recommendation, I would beg leave to decline the appointment; if I had heard of any discontent myself, I would now signify my positive refusal; but until I do, I shall hold myself ready to obey the voice of my Country.

Rank in the army of certain officers

The Continental officers residing in the County of Brunswic, who are dissatisfied with the recommendations, excepting that for the County Lieutenant, request me to state their rank to your Excellency. John Stith, who is on the recommendation for Major, was a Captain of an old standing and considerable reputation in the army. David Walker, who served from nearly the beginning to the end of the war, rose to the rank of Captain, and to my own knowledge was a steady, regular, diligent officer. Nathaniel Lucas was in the army until, against his wishes, he was declared a supernumerary, and Binns Jones, who had been a lieutenant, was broke by sentence of a Court Martial, tho' I do not recollect for what. * * I was not readily persuaded to give your Excellency this trouble, but upon a suggestion that the station I held in the Army and the office I executed in the State put it more particularly in my power to certify upon the subject, I was at length prevailed upon to State to your Excellency what I knew respecting it.

Your Excellency must permit me to embrace this occasion of offering my congratulations on the repeated proofs you receive of the established confidence of your country, and on your reappointment to the highest office in the State. I beg leave to assure you of the great respect and esteem with which I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Excellency's most ob't and humble Servant, &c., &c.

April 24th AUSTIN BROCKENBROUGH TO GOV. HENRY.

Sir:

By the act of Sequestration my Estate was put under the management of Messrs. Moore and Newman Brockenbrough and Mr. John Fauntleroy, as Commissioners. They have failed, as they themselves acknowledge, to return the Inventories and accounts required by that law. As I am now entitled to restitution of that Estate, I beg leave to trouble the Executive with making an order, that I may be permitted to call those Commissioners to account, &c.

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ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. HENRY, 1785.

Informing him of the murder of "Monsieur C. Brun" by Wm. Baker and Peter Taffe, inhabitants of Hampshire County. They had lodged with him, and discovered he had money. Baker was at large at Jackson's River, but Taffe had been secured. April 29th Washington county

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BOND OF WILLIAM RONALD, EDWARD CARRINGTON AND BENJ. TEMPLE, April —

To the amount of twenty thousand Pounds, lawful money of Virginia, given as Commissioners for the Sale of public Lands and other purposes. Appointed by the Executive under Act of Assembly, &c.

CAPT. JNO. PEYTON TO COL. THOS. MERIWETHER. May 2nd

That in obedience to Orders of the Executive he had conditionally engaged an additional number of Armourers, who had agreed to "break up their private shops" and work for the State at "one hundred pounds p'r annum and fifty p'r man for their Journeymen." He desires instructions on the subject. Point of Fork Price of armorers

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ACCOUNT OF RICH'D ADAMS May 2nd

Against the State of Virginia for rent of his dwelling-house for the use of Wm. Rose, Keeper of the Public Jails; also for value of his Lumber House, burned by the enemy under Gen'l Arnold, July 6th, 1781—to be paid in Tobacco.

J. AMBLER TO THE GOVERNOR. May 2nd

Having been directed to invest ten thousand pounds in Bills of Exchange for the purchase of arms for the State, on this account he was compelled to cease paying interest due on military certificates, and desires further instructions on this Subject. Treasury office

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PETITION OF INHABITANTS TO THE EXECUTIVE May 4th

For the pardon of Wm. Delafield, condemned to death for horse-stealing. Mecklenburg county

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1785. THOMAS CAVE MINOR'S PETITION

May 4th Richmond Fine of juryman

To be relieved of fine of four hundred pounds of Tobacco for non-appearance as a Jury-man at a term of the Gen'l Court. He makes oath that he was on horse-back, sixty miles above Richmond, near Mr. Dabney Miller's Tavern, on a journey, when summoned by the Sheriff, Mr. Williamson, &c.

May 6th HENRY TAZEWELL TO GOV. HENRY.

Richmond Mr. Tazewell appointed judge

Sir:

I rec'd your Excellency's letter last week, which enclosed me a Commission to succeed Mr. Dandridge on the Bench of the General Court. The delay which hath happened in acknowledging the Receipt of this Letter will, I hope, be excused by your Excellency, when I assure you it proceeded from no other cause than the necessity which pressed me to make some arrangements with respect to my unfinished Law Business before I determined to accept the Commission. This being effected, I have now resolved to accept and qualify under the Commission. But I cannot do it without returning your Excellency and the Council my thanks for this mark of distinction, which is the more acceptable as it was unsolicited, nor without expressing to you, Sir, my warmest acknowledgements for the polite manner in which you were pleased to communicate the appointment to me.

I have the Honor to be, with every Sentiment of Esteem and regard,
Your Excellency's most ob't serv't.

May 6th COL. CHARLES LYNCH TO THE GOVERNOR, IN REPLY,

Richmond

Accounting for certain negro slaves belonging to the State, and employed at the Lead Mines, said to have been improperly detained by him.

May 8th JAS. BARRON TO THE GOVERNOR,

Hampton Schooner Patriot

Acknowledging receipt of Two hundred and twenty pounds for paying off the crew of the State Boat Patriot, which had been done. He had also detected the Captain of a Brig making a false entry of H'h'ds of Rum, cases of Gin, and some cordage, and had required the usual forfeiture and fine.

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EDMUND RANDOLPH, ATTY.-GENERAL, IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR, 1785.

Giving his opinion "that the Executive cannot give a direction to the Sheriffs to arrest foreigners at the instance of their Consuls without a particular application in every case. For the Act enjoins the Executive to use their discretion "*where he (the Consul) shall require aid for executing the same*,"—nor does the law of nations seem to justify such a procedure." May 8th Richmond Sheriffs may not arrest foreigners, &c

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THOS. JEFFERSON TO GOV. OF VIRGINIA. May 12th

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that at length Messrs. Laval & Wilfelsheim have paid the Bill of Exchange remitted. It will enable me to furnish Mons. Houdon for his voiage to Virginia, when he shall be sufficiently reëstablished in his health to undertake it. Dr. Franklin proposing to return either the next month, or the month following, I think it probable that Houdon will accompany him. Paris Houdon

I have the honor to be, with due respect,

Your Excellency's

Most obed't and most humble serv't, &c., &c.

EDMUND RANDOLPH TO THE GOVERNOR, IN REPLY, May 12th

Giving his opinion in regard to the appointment of Sheriffs, says: "At first I conceived that under the authority of a case in Strange's reports, the recommendation of sheriffs might be made in other months than those specified by law, no words occurring therein exclusive of a power to recommend in other months. But upon a comparison of the several laws with each other, and after observing their tenor, I am satisfied that the Legislature have never intended to sanctify a recommendation but in the months particularly named." How sheriffs are to be appointed

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ROBT. MITCHELL, MAYOR, IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR. May 13th

He had laid before the Common Hall his letter in regard to the four men in jail under sentence of death. He has the honor of informing his Excellency that the "Hall" will receive them on the same terms as those now at work on the streets of the city. City of Richmond

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1785. May 14th Hampton The Boat Liberty

JAS. BARRON TO GOV. HENRY,

Informing him that Capt. James, of the "Liberty," had detected a Brig smuggling Rum, Molasses and Coffee, &c.

May 16th

COL. THOS. MERIWETHER

Certifies to the correctness of Capt. John Peyton's quarterly Returns from Point-of-Fork.

May 17th

THOS. MATHEWS TO GOV. HENRY,

Norfolk

Making appplication to be appointed "Collector of the Continental imports" at that place, says: "The part I took in favor of my country during the late revolution not only exposed my Family and property to the enemy, but to the rancour of such of my countrymen as differed from me in Sentiment. The frequent invasions of this part of the State gave them opportunity to gratify their desires, and they never failed to make me the object of their rapine and Cruelty," &c.

May 21st

ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. HENRY,

Washington county

Giving list of nominations for the County militia and reasons therefor. All these officers had served with distinction in the late war. Refers to a petition against the late militia Act, and adds: "Your Excellency's reasons for executing the laws, without determining which is good or bad, must be highly Satisfactory, especially at it affords a good argument that another branch of government ought to conform all its *Acts* to certain principles, as defined in the original Compact. For should a delegated authority at any time become so weak or corrupt as to assume over the Constitution an arbitrary or dispensing power, then the laws would truly be incompatible with the Sovereignty of the People, whose rights and franchises they ought to maintain."

A hit at the Legislature

Spanish edict

We learn that the Edict respecting religion and allegiance to Spain, lately published at the Natchez, is likely to force away the protestant Inhabitants, many of whom are preparing to remove to new Settlements on the Waters of the Ohio.

Fear of Indians

He expresses great alarm at a report of the Crossing of a large body of Indians over the Ohio, near the mouth of Sandy river, but thinks Col. Crockett will fully investigate the matter. The news had thrown the frontier settlements into great consternation, and he dreads the fate of persons "on the road through the wildernes."

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CHAS. CIST TO A. BLAIR, ESQ. 1785.

Informing him he had made every preparation to print the three thousand copies of the Continental military Regulations as requested. May 24th Philadelphia

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WALTER CROCKETT TO GOV. HENRY. May 26th

Sir:

I think it necessary to inform Your Excellence of the Circumstance that this County Stands in at present. The Indians Killed one man on the Head of the north fork of Holstains River, the sixt of Aprile last, and wounded a man ten Days after, on the head of Clinch, with arrows. These unhappy affairs threw the inhabitance along the fronters of this County into great confusion, &c. * * * There has not one year passed since the year '74, but the Indians has done more or less damage in this County, which covers near to Eighty miles of frontier of this State. I ordered the Captains and other Officers that lived in the Safest part of this County, to draught their Companies According to thire Divisions, and send men out to their Aid and Assistance. The Officers did so, but the men Refus'd to obay, Saying the Gen'l Assembly had brok' all the officers in the State, there was know others appointed, and of Corce none had a wright to Command them. He urges the great want of ammunition, and those who had a store of provisions would "not trust the State, as they expect to be paid with Auditour's certificates," Should the war continue, impressment would have to be resorted to get supplies for the troops. Montgomery co Condition of the frontier Indians

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SPENCER ROANE, ESQ., June 2nd

Elected member of the Privy Council of Virginia on the 19th Nov., 1784, but did not take the oath of office until this date. Sworn by W. Foushee, Alderman of Richmond. Richmond city

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COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. HENRY, June 3d

Giving explanation of the action of the court in the recommendations made for militia officers of that County. Jos. Martin had been appointed Lieut.-Colo. under the power given to the Executive by the Constitution, to supply vacancies during active service. Since that he became a citizen of No. Carolina, resided in that State, and served there in different offices—no duty having been done by him in this for years, and lately, at his own solicitation, was chosen one of the Privy Council for the State of Frankland (as it is call'd). * * * * The threatened Indian war had decided the Court to retain the best offi- Washington county State of Frankland

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1785. June 3d — cers, viz: Lewis, Dysart, Craig and Fulkinson, also Tate, an old officer of Augusta, the best disciplinarian in the county, and on account of his services in the Regular Army, and Michael Montgomery, another old army officer.

The other murderer of Major Le Brun had been arrested. A party of Indians discovered last night within ten miles of that place.

June 3d — Point of Fork

CAPT. JOHN PEYTON TO COL. THOS. MERIWETHER,

In regard to the negro slaves owned by the State and employed at the Lead mines, but claimed by certain individuls, &c.

June 6th — City of Richmond

MILES SELDEN, ESQ.,

Chosen member of the Privy Council, qualifies by taking the oath of Fidelity before Robert Boyd.

June 7th — Goodwood, in Washington county

ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. HENRY.

"Sir:

Since my last the Indians chased a son of Mr. Firley's, on Clinch, and run him until within sight of his Father's House. The Scouts has discovered signs of several parties of Indians down Sandy river. The alarm near the Salt-Works a few days ago is over. * * * We hear from Kentucky that several boats has been fired at and some damage done between Kentucky and the Kanawha. Some say the Shawanesse are about to move off to some distant part, being highly incensed at their treatment at the late Treaty at Fort McIntosh." He expresses apprehensions of continued trouble with the Indians during the entire summer, and urges the importance of arranging the militia under the officers recommended on Gov. Harrison's time, who had not yet been commissioned. * * * * * Adds: "A manifesto has lately appeared in the new District under the hand and Seal of Governor Martin. It is very long, or I would now send a Copy. I observe a reflection is cast on Virginia, that they have ceded nothing but some very distant and disputed territory, and an offer made to the Franklanders to open a negociation with the Eastern portion of the State and agree to a participation of the back lands without the interference of Congress, and he makes no doubt but a liberal compact may be formed and their separation recognized constitutionally. I am not yet informed how the Western Inhabitants means to answer it, only I am told Governor Sevier has issued a counter proclamation; is now treating with the Cherokees with a view to an incorporation. * * * * * In my next I purpose to inform your Excellency of the temper and how the people in this County seems affected towards those in the new District; also foward Copies of Some of their proceedings in Committee," &c.

Franklanders to share territory without authority of Congress

Governor Sevier's action

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MESSRS. USHER & DONALDSON, TO THE GOV. OF VIRGINIA, 1785.

Requesting settlement of claim against the State for funds advanced to Mr. Andrew Ellicott, Commissioner on behalf of Virginia for establishing the boundary line between Pennsylvania and that State. June 9th Baltimore

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WM. RONALD TO GOV. HENRY. June 10th

He is on his way to Gosport to attend the sale of the public Lands, and desires to meet his Excellency at once, to make all necessary arrangements therefor and to receive the proper instructions as to the terms of the Sales, prices to be asked, and the powers of the Commissioners to give conveyances to purchasers. He hopes Mr. Andrews, of Williamsburg, will be employed to lay off the lots. Desires his Excellency's commands also in regard to the "Canal business," as he is unacquainted with what duty is expected from the Commissioners appointed for that enterprise. Richmond

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BENJAMIN HAWKINS, ANDREW PICKENS, AND JOS. MARTIN, COMMISSIONERS, TO GOV. HENRY, OF VIRGINIA. June 10th

Sir:

The Commissioners appointed by the United States in Congress assembled to treat with the Cherokees and all other indians southward of them within the limits of the United States, are instructed, previous to their holding any treaty, to give due notice of the time and place where it is to be held to the supreme Executive of your State, in order that they may appoint one or more persons to attend during the treaty if they think proper. Charleston, South Carolina

In consequence thereof we have the honor to inform your Excellency that the Commissioners have agreed to hold a treaty with all the Creeks on the third Monday in September next at Gul———, on the Ogechee, in the State of Georgia, and with the Cherokees and Chickasaws the second Monday in October at or near where fort Rutledge stood, on the Keowae, in the State of South Carolina.

They urge the importance of providing the necessary funds with which to conduct the negociations, purchase presents for the Indians, and send messengers to the several nations notifying them of the event. To this end they should require of Virginia about eight thousand dollars. They further suggest a speedy compliance with their requests, in order to secure "the peace of the Union and the safety of the frontier settlements," and are glad to inform his Excellency that the Creeks had offered their assistance to the Cherokees to repell any attempts, either by hostile Indians or disorderly and disaffected whites, ever ready to foment discord, who may attempt to influence the Indians to reopen hostilities, &c.

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1785. PROCLAMATION OF GOV. HENRY,

June 10th Washington county. Removing the suspension of the operation of the Act of Assembly "for disciplining and regulating the militia and guarding against invasion and insurrection," so far as applies to Washington County and the Inhabitants thereof:

To the Freemen of Washington County:

Your Deputies, after mature Consideration, have agreed to address you on a subject of your Public affairs, well knowing that there is only wanting an exact and Candid examination into the facts to know whether You have been well served or abused by Your representatives, whither Government has been wisely administered, and wither your rights and Liberties are secure. As members of Civil Society, you will acknowledge that there are duties of importance and lasting obligations which must take place before individual conveniences or private interest, but it must be granted that in free Communities the Laws are only obligatory when made consonant to the Constitution or original Compact; for it is the only means of the surrender then made, the power therein given, that the Right ariseth to Legislate at all. Hence it is evident that the power of Legislators is in nature of trust to form regulations for the Good of the whole, agreeable to the powers deligated and the Deposite put into the General Stock, and the end proposed is to obtain the greatest Degree of happiness and safety, not for the few, but for the many. To attain these ends, and these only, men are induced to give up a portion of their natural Liberty and property when they Enter into Society. From this it is plain rulers may exceed their Trust, may invade the remaining portion of natural liberty and property, which would be an usurpation, a breach of a solemn obligation, and ultimately a conspiracy against the majesty of the People, the only treason that can be committed in a commonwealth. A much admired Writer on the side of Liberty, begins his work with the following remarkable sentence, which we Transcribe for Your information, and intreate you to read and Ponder it well: "In every Human Society there is an effort continually tending to confer on one part the hight of power and Happiness, and reduce the other to Extreme of weakness and misery. The intent of good laws is to oppose these Efforts, and to defuse their influence universally and equaly. But men generally abandon the care of their most important concerns to the uncertain Prudence and Discretion of those whose Interest it is to reject the best and wisest Instructions, and it is not till they have been led into a thousand mistakes in matters the most essential to their Lives and Liberties, and are weary of Suffering, that they can be induced to apply a remedy to the evils with which they are oppressed. It is then they begin to conceive and acknowledge the most Palpable Truths, which, from their very Simplicity, commonly escape Vulgar minds, Incapable of analysing objects, accustomed to receive

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impressions without Discretion, and to be determined rather by opinions of others than by the result of their own Examination." 1785. June 10th

A few plain Questions you may Honestly put to your selves, when in retirement, or when your heads are reclined on your pillows: For what end hath the Almighty wrought out such a wonderfull revolution in the affairs of Men as that of the Independence of America? What part ought I to act through the remainder part of my life, so as to be most pleasing to my Creator and the most useful to Society? Whether is my head and Heart so enlightened and in such a frame as to Attend to and receive the Truths, whether it comes from a person I dislike or not? Are not the duty we owe the Succeeding Generation eaqual to that I owe the present? Several mediums of Knowledge are open to all diligent inquirers. The productions of the Printing press, Literly Schools, and the meetings of the people to Debate on public measures. The Inhabitance of this County have as hitherto been peculiarly circumstanced. They became possessors of a Wilderness at a perilous Era; the Greatest part of their time since have been necessarily employed merely to provide subsistance, Coarse clothing and cheap Dwellings, to defend their familys from the Inclemency of the weather; no time or money to spare to build Eligant and Covenient houses, to erect sutable places for public Worship, to found Seminaries for Classical Learning, to promote the Education of Youth, that most indispensable of all obligations to Children. It's also a prior duty to any you owe the Estate to provide food and raiment for Your families. Plain, fair and coarse clothing you might be content with if it was necessary to part with all supperfluities to answer the real Exigencies of the State; and did you See your fellows in more favourable Situation pursuing the same course, and also could you be persuaded that a Judicious Economy pervades all the disbursements of all the public money, then, and not till then, ought you freely to part with the produce of Your Industry at the call of rulers. It may be alledged by your enemies that you do not mean to contribute anything to alleviate the burthens of the nation and support government. This charge will vanish on a fair enquiry into the various schemes of Finance and the Present State of the Public funds.

The following Estimate of Taxes, and what has operated as Taxes in the Western country, will prove that you have contributed something—probably your full share.

Treasury and preëmption warrants	£ 16,000,000
Taxes collected in the years 1778, 1779–'80, 1782	180,000
Bills lost, sunk or funded, Paper money	5,000,000
	21,130,000
Cash paid Commissioners in hard money reduced	10,000
Composition money sent with the plots	70,000
One-sixth of the surveyor's fees	5,000

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1785.	Registers' fees prior to 1784	£ 30,000
June 10th	" " " 1784	3,000
	" " " 1785	10,000
	Additional Tax of 5s. pr. 100 on Land	25,000
	Duty on salt will cost the Western consumption 6s. pr. bushel	1,500
	Duties on imports on foreign goods and enumerated articles,	2,500
	Loyal Company's claim in W. & M. Countys	8,000
	Taxes on ———, &c., may produce annually	2,000
	Assessment subsequent to 1781, an enormous sum, that is impracticable, if not unjust, to collect	172,000

Should the Legislatur abolish assessment, and the above not be sufficient, you might endure Taxing a few Luxurous Articles and Some vices, that would increase the sum and make it Equal to your Just proportion of Expenditures.

If your Eastern neighbours were generous they would make some allowance for the great losses sustained by the Depredations of the Indians, and for the many valuable lives lost to Keep them safe. The appropriation of your public money ought also to be a subject of serious enquiry. For, if at any time, should it be applied to the purposes Vainality and Corruption, you would then be feeeding your destroyers, and enable them to make further invasions on your remaining rights and liberties, untill you would have nothing left worth Contending for, and you and your posterity would be obliged to stoop to an abject Vaassallge.

☞ All is not lost yet. Therefore beware in future of the Objection of either weak or interested Men, who would persuade you to a passive conduct under all the Measures of Government. Your rulers, as well as those of other nations, are only falable men. When they act well, honour and applaud; when wickedly, impeach and punish them. Disregard their impotent threats and ridiculous falacies, and let them know that the Little selfish cry of an Individual is not to be heard when the loud sounds of the people's are publishing their wrongs.

Signed by order.

CHARLES CUMMINGS, Ch'm.

A copy.

This document is thus endorsed by the Governor.

Memo.—James Montgomery put this paper into my hands and can prove its authenticity, and that Arthur Campbell personally explained, enforced, and inculcated its Contents on the people, parti'arly the state of Taxes p'd by that County.

P. H.

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WILLIAM ROBISON TO GOV. HENRY, 1785.

Informing him that on the 6th instant a pair of saddle-bags were found in Clinch River, which had belonged to Major Le Brun, supposed to have been drowned on the 20th January previous. The clothing and papers had been identified. June 11th Washington county

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COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. HENRY. June 15th

Sir:

In my last I acquainted your Excellency that Wm. Baker, the other person charged with the murder of Major le Brun, was lodged in the jail of this County. About a week afterward the saddle-bags were found by one Duncan, about two miles below the Ford where the Major was lost, lodged among some drift-wood, on the point of an Island. There was found in them near five hundred pounds in gold, some Bonds, and several Bills of Exchange, together with many letters and other papers, with some cloaths. This circumstance is adduced by the friends of the Criminals as proof of their innocence, although with many others there still remains strong suspicions that either the saddle-bags was lost in the scuffle, that was supposed to take place when Baker and Taffe attack'd the Major in the river, or that the Bags was put into the river by a third person, an accomplice, after the condemnation of Taffe. The matter is not yet clear, for which reason I now humbly address your Excellency, that if Peter Taffe has been found guilty in the General Court his Execution may be postponed until it may be known what time and the tryal of Baker may discover. Washington county

The murder of Major Le Brun

The authority in the new District has concluded their treaty with the Cherokees. My informer Says the negotiation was of a neighbourly and friendly kind, the purchase of lands being avoided, in consequence of some Letters rec'd from Governor Caswell, who is still highly respected by the western leaders. I find also, from information by another hand, that a majority of the Inhabitants disapproved the scheme of assumeing power without first applying to Congress, and that he thinks the new authority will shortly be dissolved and the business carried on similar to the plan adopted in Kentucky.

The new State

By a gentleman late from Kentucky, I am told that a large party of Indians was discovered on this side the Ohio, and that Col. Benjamin Logan had set out with several hundred men to attack them. No mischief has been done in this county since my last; what ranging has been done I have prevailed on Volunteers to do it, only I was under the necessity to order six trusty Woodsmen to act as Scouts towards the Ohio; they are not returned; as soon as their report comes to hand, if interesting, I will transmit it to the Executive. * * * * *

Indians

I am, sir, your most Obedient Servant, &c., &c.

P. S.—I lately had the pleasure of seeing Col. Christian. His family

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1785. June 15th was well; and he told me the greatest part of his negroes and other property had safely reached Kentucky. He purposes to set out with his wife and children in August, he being now stopt in a plentiful neighborhood, at the mouth of ye N. Fork of Holstien

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June 21st EDMUND RANDOLPH, ATT'Y-GENERAL, TO GOV. HENRY IN REPLY.

Dear Sir:

The present is the first moment which I have enjoyed, of sufficient liesure, to answer your Excellency's several favors. * * I understand from Mr. George Fleming that the Slave, Judy, was intended as a Servant for young Vaston, who has arrived at Norfolk, on his way to the Springs; that they came in Separate vessels, and that she brought her daughter with her, a child of about six years of age.* The Act of Emancipation excepts the case of "travellers and others, making a transient stay in this Commonwealth, bringing slaves with them for necessary attendance, and carrying them out again." The question, then, is on a mere matter of fact, whether she be a necessary attendant? On this your Excellency can decide with at least as much propriety as myself; but I confess I am not satisfied from anything which has appeared that she was destined to wait on Mr. Vaston's Son; for, otherwise, she would scarce have come in a distinct vessel, or have brought such an incumbrance as her daughter. I must therefore, until fuller proof can be adduced, declare my opinion to be, that she ought to receive the protection of magistracy.

Slaves brought into the State to be free unless *in transitu*

The Gosport Commissioners are, in my apprehension, to be allowed two per centum on the amount of the Sales, for their individual Services. They are directed to give Bond for the true and faithful discharge of their duty, for which "Services" the compensation is made. For what services? Those included in their duty. What is their duty? This I will not define affirmatively, but I will say negatively that it does not oblige them to be surveyors, cryers, or any of those servile officers which the prosecution of this business may call into action. It would Seem strange to Subject men of Character to some of those disgraceful employments, &c. * * * * * * *

Compensation of Gosport commissioners

Mrs. Nicholas, and the rest of the females in the family, will wait upon you with pleasure at dinner to-morrow. I am afraid, however, that a journey, which I must begin towards Petersburg to-morrow, on business, will deprive me of indulging myself with accepting your invitation.

I am, dear Sir, with the Sincerest regard and esteem,

Y'r Excellency's mo. ob. Serv't, &c., &c.

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* Act of 1779. See Hening's Statutes at Large.

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ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO MR. BLAIR IN REPLY. 1785.

He does not feel authorized to adjust the claims or accounts of any officer for furnishing supplies in the late war, unless he had been empowered to do so by a Continental Officer. June 23d

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GOV. PATRICK HENRY TO THE COUNTY LIEUT. AND COMMANDING OFFICER OF GREENBRIER CO. June 23d

Sir:

From the present Situation of Indian affairs, it is probable that hostilitys may commence from the Western Tribes. I do therefore desire that you will be careful and diligent in preparing your militia for an effectual defence. In particular, I desire you to exert your utmost in Seeing that the arms of your people are kept in Constant readiness, and that proper supplies of powder and ball are in the hands of the people. If the necessary ammunition Cannot be had in your County, and the time will not permit an application to me, you are to apply to Mr. James McGavoc, near Fort Chiswell, for any quantity of Lead, not exceeding 1,000 lbs., and to Capt. Peyton, at the Point of Fork, for any quantity of Powder, not exceeding 500 lbs. One-half of this ammunition is to be by you Sold to persons whose situation is most exposed, and the other half you are to keep, to be put into the hands of the Militia, when you draw them out into actual Service. In the mean time I desire you to report to me the State of your Arms and Ammunition, that I may discover what prospect of Safety your people have in case of War with the Savages. In council. Measures for defence of the frontier

I am, Sir,
Your most obed. Servant, &c., &c.

J. AMBLER, TREASURER, TO THE GOVERNOR, IN REPLY. June 25th

He had in vain made efforts to negociate a draft on France or England, and should he succeed "the Excha. will be high, perhaps 42½ p. cent." Treasury office. High rate of exchange

---

MESSRS. RO. BROOKE AND JAMES TUTT TO GOV. HENRY, July 1st

Enclosing account against the State for building a Magazine and Gun Factory, by contract with Col. Feilding Lewis, in November, 1776. Fredericksburg

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1785. COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. HENRY.

Sir:

July 5th Washington county. Murders by Indians.

By some gentlemen from Kentucky I am informed that in the night of the 29th June last, Mr. Archibald Scott (who lived on the road leading to Kentucky, in Powell's valley) and all his children, four in number, together with another young man, was murdered by the Indians, and his wife supposed to be taken prisoner. By the same gentleman I am told that Colo. Logan has returned from the excursion he made after the Indians, they being gone from the camps discovered, and that the numbers reported by the scouts was greatly exaggerated.

Western affairs.

It is unfortunate for us that our militia are so deranged, and the evil has a greater effect by the countenance said to be given by the Executive to a *Cabal*, that only means to through in obstacles to create disorder without answering any good purpose. But as your Excellency are fully possessed of the matter by former communications, I feel a consolation in reflecting that no exertions of mine has been wanting that was in my power to prevent the loss of lives; those who either through mistaken notions or design may be accessary to the misfortunes of their fellow-creatures and countrymen may answer for it to their own conscience.

I am, sir,
Your most obedient servant, &c., &c.

July 5th CAPT. JAS. BARRON TO GOV. HENRY, BY HIS SON, LIEUTENT BARRON.

Hampton

He sends his son to "wait" on his Excellency for funds to pay off the crew of the "Liberty," he having applied, without success, to Capt. Loyall for the necessary amount. He had borrowed the money himself, to satisfy the men, and paid them. Adds: "Three months Pay was due the Patriot's crew on the 21st May, which I have also endeavored to gett from Mr. Loyall, but without Effect, and I am certain I shall not be able to gett any money from him, tho' Mr. Browne hath Informed me that there was certainly a Sufficiency In his Hands to have fitted out the Boats. I kept them running one year. The Commissioners have had no settlement as yett, tho' it has been two years since last April that the men belonging to the navy were paid off and discharged." * * * * * * "The men's Times, belonging to the Patriot, will be out in August, and those of the Liberty in Oct'r next."

Pay of the navy, &c.

I have the honor to be, Sir, with
great respect, your Excellency's most
obt. servant, &c., &c.

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JOSIAH PARKER, COLLECTOR, TO THE EXECUTIVE. 1785.

Gives notice of his intended trip northward on account of his ill-health, and requesting approbation of the same, especially as Capt. Bedinger, his Deputy, can be entrusted with the business of his office. Dwells upon the great difficulty of collecting dues on account of scarcity of cash, and "the dispersed situation of the merchants." Unless some fixed place be found for the entry of goods, a great decrease in the customs must ensue. He adds: "Mr. Oster, the French Consul, has applyed to me for the list of vessells entered and cleared at my office this last year, with an exact state of their Burthens, owners, Cargoes, destinations, intentions, &c., &c., &c. I have given him a vague answer, my reason for which was I conceived it a matter of much consequence, and which I deemed ought not to be divulged without the approbation of the Executive, as although I consider the French nation as our protectors from Tyranny, and the great means of our emancipation, yet I know they are politick, and perhaps may make use of these means to counteract our Commercial plans at some future day, when we may not be on as happy terms, as we are at present.

With great respect for your Excellency and
Your honorable Board, I do myself the
honor to subscribe myself
Your devoted, faithfull servant, &c., &c.

July 7th
Norfolk

Request of the French Consul, &c, refused

CAPT. JOHN PEYTON TO ARC'D BLAIR, IN REPLY, July 10th

And enclosing the required statement of Jno. Timberlake, Clerk of Fluvanna Court, to the effect that he had never issued a writ of "*ad quod damnum*," either by authority of the Co. Court nor by command of the Executive, summoning a Jury to value any part of the P. of Fork lands on which to erect a Laboratory, &c.

Point of Fork

JOS. NEVILL TO GOV. HENRY. July 13th

The money drawn for finishing "the Line between this State and Pennsylvania exhausted." He had been compelled to draw on the sheriff of Mononghalia; "not a mouth full of Provisions, nor a man to do a day's work without the money down."

Wheeling

JAMES HAYES, PUBLIC PRINTER. July 15th

The Journals of the last Assembly not ready for want of proper paper. It had just arrived from "the northward," where he had been to forward it.

Richmond

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1785. PAY-ROLL OF THE STATE BOAT LIBERTY.

July 15th Lieut- Michael James, Com'nd'g.

July 17th

The lead-mine negroes

At the commencement of the war, sundry negroes belonging to divers persons, supposed to be unfriendend in the Act of going to the public enemy, and sent, by order of the Executive, to the Lead mines, which negroes have been ordered by the Assembly to be given up to their proper owners. Mr. Lynch, the former Agent for managing the mines, has detained part of the negroes, having proposed to purchase them of persons who expect a power of attorney from the legal owners to dispose of them. The question is, whether the Executive have a power to force Mr. Lynch to give up the negroes, to be by them delivered to their proprietors, or if he be permitted to keep them, giving bond and security to return them: provided he shall not be able to procure a legal title, whether such a bond will be good.

Opinion of the Attorney-General

I beg leave to certify to the executive that my opinion is, that the Act of the legislature will not support them in going farther with Mr. Lynch than merely to order him to deliver the negroes up. Should he refuse, he will be liable for damages to the true owners, or the Executive may direct the Attorney-General to institute process for enabling them to fulfill the requisition of the Assembly.

July 19th GOV. JOHN SEVIER TO GOV. P. HENRY.

Sir:

Franklin State

Haveing an opportunity to send a letter to general Russells, from whence I expect it can be forwarded to your Excellency, I take the Liberty of writing to you. The people on the western waters in No. Carolina, for many Reasons, too long to Trouble you with, have formed themselves into a new state by the name of Franklin, and have appointed me their

Sevier appointed Governor

Governor. This appointment has brought on a Conference with a famous Leader of the Chickasaws, who came into the State a few days ago in order to Solict a Trade with this part of the Country. They say they were sent for by Colo. Martin on that business, but as he was in Carolina, waiting on the other Congress Commissioners for Treating with the Indians when the Chickasaws came to the Cherokees, they thought proper to come In here. I will have them all well used, and Encouraged a few honest people to Return with them and take down a few Goods. This can be done, because there is a very large store now opening at the No. Fork, Two miles below the Great Island, by merchants from Baltimore. * * * * * I will beg leave to mention to your Excellency that I am takeing every measure in my power to prevent Encroachments on the Indians' Land. This, however, is a difficult Task,

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1785.
July 19th

because North Carolina actually sold the Land up To these Towns. I have fixed a Temporary Line, as far as people are settled, and none shall settle over it until it can be done by mutual Agreement.

The Virginians not to be encouraged to join Franklin

Although we have been forced into measures for separating from Carolina, I think it necessary to inform you that we will, on no account, Encourage any part of The people of your state to join us, nor will we receive any of them unless by Consent of your state. We reverence the Virginians, and I am confident the Legislature here will, at all times, do everything to merit their esteem.

Congress have called again upon No. Carolina to confirm the Session which they unwisely withdrew, and I believe a majority of the people in Carolina are in Our favour.

I do not expect your Excellency to Correspond with us until our Government is Recognized by Congress. But, in the mean, you may Rely we shall do everything in Our Power to contribute to the welfare of all the neighbouring States as well as our own. And we hope soon to convince them all that we are not a banditti, but a people who mean to do right, as far as our knowledge will lead us.

I am your Excellency's Ob't Serv't, &c., &c.

WILLIAM ROBISON TO GOV. HENRY, July 20th

Clinch river, Washington county

In regard to the money found in the Saddle-bags of Le Brun, and asking for instructions, as administrator, as to what he shall do with the remainder of the fund after all legal claims shall have been satisfied.

CAPT. JAS. BARRON TO GOV. HENRY. July 26th

Sir:

Hampton

I have the Honour to inform your Excellency that on Sunday a Mr. Lunsford informed me that on the day before (about 2 o'clock in the afternoon) he was boarded and robbed by three Armed men in a Small Boat in Warwick Creek Bay, of a quantity of Dry Goods, the property of Mr. Sam'l Paine in Richmond. I immediately dispatched Lieut. James, of the Liberty, in Pursuit of them, with Lunsford on board, and followed with the other Boat as Soon as possible. At 2 o'Clocke Capt. James Came up with the Pirates in nancymond, and took them all three, with the goods which they had landed. They are now lodged in this jail. They confest the Robbery. Their names are Henry Butler, late of Williamsburg, who married the Daughter of one Deforrest living there; Alexander Moore, formerly a midshipman on board the Muskito Brig; Capt. Harris, and a Slaughter Cowling, of nancymond.

Arrest of robbers

I have the Honour to be with Great Respect, Sir,
Your Excellency's most obed. Serv't, &c., &c.

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1785. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV'R HENRY.

Sir:

July 26th Washington county

After being honored lately with the receipt of several of your Excellency's letters, particularly that of the 17th may last, and the several communications made in consequence of them, particularly my letter of the 13th June, the principal Officers, and the Whig interest in this County, seemed to rest satisfied that an amicable and enlightened Administration would pave the way to the Legislature and to Congress for the efficient and permanent redress of the principal, and in Some cases the almost intolerable greivances of the Western Inhabitants. But whilst secure in this Confidence, we have to lament that the voice of Calumny and faction have reached the seat of supreme rule, and that without a constitutional enquiry, without a fair hearing, it has been in some degree listened to, and had effect. It is hard to defend, when it is not known what we are charged with, and at all times who can disarm private picque, or be able to withstand malice and envy without feeling Some smart? But political fury, engendered by tory principles, knows no bounds, and is without a parallel. Bernard and Hutchison has exhibited to Governors and the World examples that aught to teach wisdom to this and succeeding generations. We are told (but it is only from report) that we have offended government on account of our sentiments being favourable to a new State, and our looking foward for a separation. If such a disposition is criminal, I confess there is not a few in this County to whom guilt may be imputed, and to many respectable characters in other Counties on the Western Waters. If we wish for a separation it is on account of griviancies that daily become more and more intolerable; it is from a hope that another mode of governing will make us more useful than we now are to the general Confederacy, or ever can be, whilst so connected. But why can blame fall on us when our aim is to conduct measures in an orderly manner, and strictly consistant with the Constitution. Surely men who has bound themselves by every *holy tie* to support republican principles cannot on a dispassionate consideration blame us. Our want of experience and knowledge may be made a plea against us. We deplore our circumstances and situation on that account, but at the same time firmly believe our advances to knowledge will still continue slow, perhaps verge towards ignorance and barbarism, without the benefit of local independent Institutions.

Hints of the necessity for a new State

Suspicions verified

Their motives

But, sir, why may we not take courage and say we are right when adverting to our own Constitution, to the different Acts of Congress, that of different Legislatures, the opinions of the first statesmen in America, among whom we can number an illustrious Commander, a great Lawyer and Judge in this State, and a Governor of Virginia himself.

All that I have to ask, and it is all that I may ever crave, that your Excellency may not, from invidious information, form rash measures, so urge matters at an untimely day to extremities, which only might gratify an

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angry individual, but would, by no means, promote the interest and peace of the Commonwealth, or its honor and dignity." 1785. July 26th

I am Sir, with respect, Your most obedient Servant, &c., &c.

JAS. MONTGOMERY, WILLIAM EDMISTON AND ARTHUR BOWEN TO GOVERNOR HENRY. July 27th

Sir:

Viewing with concern the present situation of affairs in this county, through attempts of ambitious men, thereby intending to insence the good people thereof against the laws of the State and proceedings of government requisite thereto, finally to effect a new State in this quarter of the country, We cannot any longer remain tacit beholders of the evils already generating among us without the most alarmed sensations, which we think the ties of humanity and obligations to our country lead us to disclose. Washington county

Most secret plans have been laid to delude the people, holding out to them the idea of oppressive acts imposed by the General Assembly, intended to burthen them unjustly with a weight of taxes. Small Committees were contrived and convened by Colonel Arthur Campbell, the leader of this disorder, so early as February and March last, under pretext of seeking redress of grievances in behalf of the county—his favorite theme to vail his grand object of seperation. He opened his Committees by avowed declarations against collecting taxes in this County the present year, and decrying the laws in general of the last Assembly. Notwithstanding every oposition then made to his measures, he continued to convene his committees, and not long after, in one of his Committees at Maj'r Dysarts, disclosed his plan of representation to Congress, thereby aiming to fix a boundary, to include a part of Virginia in the Franklin State.

It is also notoriously known that Colonel Campbell did, in a Convention of the North Carolina people, publicly propose to separate himself, with the citizens of Washington and Montgomery in Virginia, and joining them, declare themselves immediately independent of the States of Virginia and North Carolina, and moreover stand the front of the battle between these people and Virginia when necessary. His declaration to the people of this County at March Court, to elect no delegates to the General Assembly this year, together with his late opposition at July Court to the proclamation issued by your Excellency in Council the 10th June last, may be sufficient to satisfy your Excellency and the honorable Council that the mischievous spirit prevailing here in opposition to the present collection and other proceedings of government, must have arisen from the licentious spirit of Colonel Campbell, conveyed to them through his artful insinuations daily since last Court, exercised by public meetings in this County, intended to overset the designs of the Executive in the pres-

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1785. July 27th

ent arrangement of the militia; and there is reason to believe he is now aiming to effect associations to oppose the collection when attempted to be made. The charges herein contained can undoubtedly be supported by General Russell, Captain Andrew Kincannon, Capt. Henry Smith and Captain Wm. Cock, of the Franklin settlement. We rest the charges herein contained for the discussion and ultimate decision of your Excellency and the honourable Council, that if necessary he may be cited to answer the charges against him.

I am, Sir, your Excellencie's most obed't and
very humble servants, &c., &c., &c.

July 28th

ANDREW DONNALLY TO GOV. P. HENRY.

Sir:

Greenbrier county

Indian affairs and case of one Higgins

By Capt. Graham, who lately came from the Indian Towns, I am informed that there is now resident amongst them Certain white men who omit no opportunity of irritating the Indians against us, Refers to one "Higgins," who had been a Trader at Detroit early in the late war, and had been compelled to join the British against his wishes, had deserted from them, but having been captured by the hostile Indians was reduced to great suffering and privation. After the war, being regarded with suspicion by all parties, he went to reside with Shawanese, where he had omitted no opportunity of rendering service to People captives amongst them. He has great influence with the Indians, and being anxious to do a service to the county, "he proposes that if a Commission be sent him to authorize his proceedings, he will undertake, at his own hazard, to bring in those white men who endeavour to promote enmity between us, particularly the Girties, whose implacable malice is notorious."

Proposal to arrest the white malcontents among the Indians.

I have thus laid before your Excellency the Proposals of this man, as represented to me by Capt. Graham. * * * * * This matter has also been strongly recommended to me by Colo. Thos. Lewis, at Point Pleasant, of whose unfortunate death you will receive account."

I am, Sir, Your Excellency's
most ob'd't humble servant, &c., &c.

July 29th

JOS. NEVILL AND ANDREW ELLICOTT (COMMISSIONERS), TO GOV. HENRY.

Sir:

Ohio county

We have drew a sum of Money from Mr. Wood, Surveyor of this County, due to the Marsters of William and Mary Collige, which we hope you will please to Isue your Warrant for payment thereof agreeable to the Rect. given Mr. Wood.

We are, sir, your most obedient
Humble Serv'ts, &c., &c.

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SAMUEL BROWN TO GOV. HENRY, BY EXPRESS. 1785.

Sir:

By Express from Point Pleasant I am informed Colo. Thos. Lewis, with some other Gentlemen from that place, have fallen into an ambuscade of the Indians, who, it appeared, had betrayed them by an Invitation to a kind of Treaty at the Salt Licks. Colo. Lewis had been desirous of cultivateing a friendly correspondence with them, and for that purpose had frequently sent to them, and had received the most friendly answers; but it appears their designs was only to trepan him, which they have effected, much to the loss of the Inhabitants of that part, as they are now in the utmost distress, and a number of defenceless People exposed to the mercy of the Savages. They have sent to me desiring some assistance, and notwithstanding I am unacquainted with what your pleasure may be in regard of the appointment of militia officers for this county, I have, in consequence of my former office, taken the liberty to direct the Captains of the respective companies to engage as many volunteers as may amount to twenty or thereabouts, which I design to send immediately to the relief of the People settled in the Kenaway, particularly at Point Pleasant, whose situation is truly hazardous, and hope the necessity of this measure will meet with your approbation, especially as there is every reason to believe that several Tribes of Savages are determined for war, as that Port will in great measure secure the whole of the Frontiers of this County. I shall direct them to continue there till I receive your orders upon that head.

July 29th Greenbrier

Murder of Colonel Thos. Lewis

With Colo. Lewis fell Capt. Lockhart, of this place, a Capt. Amberson, from Fort Pitt, and one Mr. Squire.

Other officers killed

Mr. Hanley, who has the Honour of delivering this to you, will, I hope, be thought deserving of the allowance made to Expresses.

I am, Sir, Your Excellencie's mo. ob. servant, &c., &c.

CAPT. JAS. BARRON TO GOV. HENRY, August 2d

Enclosing the Pay-rolls of the "Liberty" and the "Patriot," by Capt. King, "coming in the stage." Urges the payment of the men, in as much as when they were enlisted he had been authorized to promise them their pay once every three months, &c. Hampton

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OLIVER POLLOCK TO GOV. BEVERLY RANDOLPH, August 9th

In regard to his claim against the State of Virginia; desiring to know when he should appear at Richmond in accordance with the suggestion made thro' the Hon. Mr. Hardy. Philadelphia

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1785. L. WOOD, J'N'R,

August 13th Solicitor's office — Enclosing to the Governor Lists of Persons and amounts of claims due them. He adds: "I flatter myself you will pardon the liberty I take to request that information be given me whenever Warrants for these claims issue, that I may enter them in this office to the Debit of the respective Claimants, whereby I shall have it in my power at any time to shew how they stand, which otherwise is difficult."

August 16th Richmond — RETURN OF MILITARY STORES, DELIVERED TO WILLIAM PRICE, Containing list of ordnance, ordnance stores and other articles, military implements, and other like articles now out of use.

August 22d Paris — THOS. JEFFERSON TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

I was honored yesterday with your Excellency's letter of June 16th, inclosing the resolutions of Assembly relative to the busts of the M. de la Fayette. I shall render cheerfully any services I can in aid of Mr. Barclay for carrying this resolution into effect. The M. de la Fayette being to pass into Germany and Prussia, it was thought proper to take model of his bust in plaister before his departure. Mons. Houdon was engaged to do it, and did it accordingly. So far Mr. Barclay had thought himself authorized to go, in consequence of orders formerly received. You will be so good as to instruct me as to the monies hereafter to be remitted to me—whether I am to apply them solely to the statue of General Washington, or to that and the Marquis's bust in common, as shall be necessary. Supposing you wish to know the application of the monies remitted from time to time, I state herein an account thereof, so far as I am able at present. Before your receipt of this letter I am in hopes mine of July 11, by Mons'r Houdon, will have come to your hands. In that I inclosed you a copy of the contract with him.

M. de la Fayette's bust by Mons. Houdon, &c

I have the honour to be, with due respect,

Your Excellency's

most obedient and most humble serv't, &c., &c.

Account

		Livres.	Sous.
1875. Apr.	Receiv'd of Laval & Wilfelsheim on Alexander's Bill.....	8957.	11.
1875. Mar. 11.	To pd. portage on Gen'l Washington's picture from L'Orient	13.	8.

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	Livres.	Sous.	1785.
Apr. 16th. To pd. for a frame to do.....	51.	0.	August 22d
July 18th. To pd. to Mon'r Houdon.....	10.000	0.	
Aug. 13th. To pd. Houdon's bill on me for expenses.....	2.724.	6.6	
	12.788.	14.6	

Besides the above sums paid,

I expect daily a bill from London for insuring 15.000 livres on Houdon's life (I thought it best to ensure enough to cover the expenses of his voiage, as well as the sum to be given his family in case of his death), this if at 5 pr. cent. will be.....750.0–0 livres.

On his arrival at Philadelphia he is to draw on me for money enough for his expenses going, staying and returning. We conjectured there would be about 5000 livres in the whole, but 2724–6–6 being paid, the residue would be 2275–13–6.

There is due to him for the model of the busts of the M. de la Fayette, in plaister, I imagine, about 750.0–0.

The two first of these sums I expect I shall have paid by the time this letter gets to hand, and I shall pay the third, if demanded. These added to 3831 livres 3 sous 6 den., already in advance, as will be seen above, will amount to between seven and eight thousand livres. Houdon, on his return, will also expect an advance for the two busts of the M. de la Fayette.

THOS. BARCLAY TO GOV. HENRY. August 23d

Sir:

Paris

I had the honor of receiving by the last Packet the letter which you wrote me the 16th of June, together with the Resolutions of Assembly respecting the Busts of the Marquis de la Fayette, and I beg leave to assure you that my best endeavors shall not be wanting to accomplish matters agreable to your wishes. . Mr. Houdon, who embarked for America with Dr. Franklin, made a considerable progress in executing the first Bust that was ordered, but the Marquis being at present in Prussia, the matter must rest untill he and Mr. Houdon return. I think it will be better that the same Person compleats both the Busts; the more so, as he is at the top of his profession. The cost of each will be 3,000 Livres, and I have paid Fifty Louis d'ors for the purchase of the marble for the first.

Bust of the Marquis de la Fayette

The pattern Fusil from St. Etienne is come, and I think it unexceptionable, save an error of 1⅛ Inch in the length, which will be rectified in another. It was furnished by the persons who supply the best arms for the use

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1785. August 23d

Arms for the State

of King's troops, and if we agree with them, the price must be what his majesty pays. * * * * * "The difference between the gun being mounted with steel and brass, will be 20 Sols each, so that the whole expence of Gun and Bayonet may be supposed 26–10 Sols. This is a high Price, but M. Jefferson and the marquis de la Fayette Join in opinion that the very best arms ought to be sent out." * * * "The Ramrods will be steel in place of Iron, the latter being totally rejected at present in this Country and not Cheaper, and the length of the Guns you order is exactly ½ of a french Inche shorter than those used by the french army. The Marquis de Fayette is of opinion that each Cartridge Box ought to Contain 36 Cartridges, but I do not think we can make such a deviation from the Instructions, which are for 20." * * * If you pursue the Idea of arming the State Generally, you may possibly, in the future, make some alterations in your Instructions. * * *

I have written to Liege for 2 Fusils, as a model of what can be done there. I saw the arms they were making, about three years ago, for the use of the Grand Seignor, and I think from thence some might be procured considerably cheaper than at this place, and, if made on purpose, would be very good; but of this you will Judge when you see the workmanship of the model, which I shall send out to you."

I have the honor to assure you of the great Respect

with which I remain, &c, &c.

August 24th

ANRDEW ELLICOTT TO GOV. P. HENRY.

Sir:

Boundary line between Virginia and Pennsylvania finished

On the 23d of this month we compleated the boundary Line between the States of Virginia and Pennsylvania. The Line is a true Astronomical Meridian, extending from the S. west Corner of Pennsylvania to the River Ohio, and in length nearly 64 miles. The work is executed to an uncommon degree of accuracy, and by the good management of Mr. Nevil, with much less expense than commonly attends undertakings of such magnitude. * * * * * *

For particulars, I must refer you to Collo. Nevil, who, I expect, will wait upon you in the course of a few days. I have not charged anything for my Expenses home, nor included in my account more than 6 days for my journey to Baltimore, which cannot be performed in less than 12. On my return home I intend verifing and publishing the observations which we made use of to determine the five degrees of Longitude last season, and there used to obtain the direction of the meridian which bounds the two States.

I have the Honour to be,

Your Excellency's H'ble Serv't, &c., &c.

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JAMES BARBOUR TO THE GOVERNOR, 1785.

In regard to the serious difficulty in organizing the Militia, due to the failure of the Officers commissioned to accept the positions assigned them, and the inconvenience of attending the "muster-fields" from remote parts of the County. He begs that more than two Battalions be allowed in order to remedy this, and thinks Gen'l Stevens, who is appointed County Lieutenant, will qualify to the Office should this request be granted; otherwise he should resign. He then recommends the following for the Several Offices: "Henry Hill, Esq'r., Lieut.-Colo.; Reuben Beale and Elijah Kortley, Esquires, Majors." August 29th Culpepper

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JOS. MARTIN TO BRIG.-GEN'L WM. RUSSELL, WASHINGTON CO. August 29th

Dear Sir:

The News from this quarter is Truly a Larming. The Warr Hatchett is Certainly sent from the northward nation to the Creeks, and has passt thro' the Chickasaws and Choctaws, and that they have rec'd it, tho' I think the Chickasaws will not Receive it. It is Daily expected in this nation. I will wait to know the Event. The Indians hear are very uneasie about the Incroachments on their Lands, also the Delay of the Treaty. I have used Every Artifice in my power to quiett their minds by often convening them, and have Divided what publick Goods was in my hands among them and the Chickasaws. I have fell on a nother plann to amuse them Tell the Treaty comes on, which is to send a few of their Chiefs to Charleston, from thence to the assembly of North Carolina, as I have just rec'd a letter from Gen'l pickens, informing that Georgia would not furnish any cash for the Treaty; that the Commissioners Cannot proceed before they send to Congress to know how the money is to be furnish'd. If the Warr Hatchett should Come Hear before I leave the nation it may be Difficult for me to Escape, tho' I trust that I have some frienes among the Indians that will let me know in time to Escape. I am very unwilling to leave the nation without knowing the Bottom of their Designs. * * * * It is certain that a few Creeks passt thro' Chickamogga a Few Days ago with two sculps, Two cases of pistols, and eight or ten Horses, which they said they took from the Kentucky road. in —— Threatened war among the Indians

P. S.—Since closeing my letter I have rec'd a few lines from Mr. McDonald, who was a gent. for Great Britain thro' the Course of the warr. He mentioned he Had Something of Importance to Impart to me, which he was unwilling to Trust to paper. As it may be of Consequence to States, I propose to see him at the risk of my life, and have sent for him to come to me. If he Don't Come Shortly, I intend Down to the Lookout mountain, wheare he lives."

Your most Ob't Ser't, &c., &c.

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1785. DAVID MEADE TO GOV. HENRY.

August — Maycox, Prince George county Reasons why he should not accept place of commission of Norfolk canal

Your Excellency and the honorable Board, at which you preside, are, it is probable, unacquainted with the circumstances of my being a member of the Dismal Swamp Company, otherwise you would have nominated Some person less exceptionable in that particular than myself, to fill the vacancy in the Commission for the Norfolk canal, made by Mr. Carrington's resignation, as that connexion evidently interests me in the question with respect to the course of it. At the same time it is proper to reveal, that the best information which I have had the means of obtaining, has given my judgment a bias in favor of a direction different from any that has been suggested to the assembly. If your Excellency and the honorable Council should think this my reason for declining your very flattering appointment not of sufficient weight to render the acceptance improper, you will find me obedient to your future commands.

I am, with due respect,

Your Excellency's most ob't Serv't, &., &c.

Endorsed.—"The appointment was returned to Mr. Meade."

September 1st

BENJ. HAWKINS TO GOV. HENRY, OF VA.,

Charleston, South Carolina

In reply to letter of Bev. Randolph, Esqr., dated In Council, July 7th, in regard to the requisition of Commissioners for Indian affairs, and informing him of certain Drafts made on Virginia, "to enable them to proceed to the execution of the important duties of their Commission."

September 3d

JOHN PAGE TO GOV. HENRY,

Rosewell

In regard to the organization of the militia of Gloucester County. The irregularities that had occurred grew out of the failure of the County Lieut., Sir John Peyton, to attend at the last meeting of the Committee, and to make his returns of the strength of the militia. As far as given in, the militia had "increased to 1000 men." The officers qualified were Sr. John Peyton, Co. Lieut., John Page, Lieut.-Col., and Mecham Boswell, Major. It was earnestly desired that James Baytop be made Lieut.-Col.; Mordecai Throckmorton, Thos. Bucker, and John Hughes, Majors. "Then we shall have good officers for 2 Battalions."

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JOHN PIERCE DUVALL TO GOV. HENRY. 1785.

The Indians had "again repeated their barbarities" in that County on the 31st August, by killing the wife and four children of Thos. Cunningham and burning his house and that of Ed. Cunningham. The people terrified. Expresses arriving with inteliigence of traces of the Indians being near by. He should do all he could to keep the people together until succor should arrive, but the militia were not organized, and ammunition very scarce. He had sent out fifty men and six spies. The effective force in the entire County only about "two hundred and fifteen men, and about one Hundred and thirty guns." He is about to send for the powder and Lead, "agreeable to your Directions;" but adds: "in case there is any Rifles Belonging to the State in any of the Back magazines, to wit, Alexandria, Winchester or Fredericksburg, should acknowledge it as a singular favor to send an order for about Two Hundred of them," &c.

September 5th
Harrison county, Clarksburg
Indian outrages, &c

ENCLOSED ACCOUNT OF EXPENSES, DUE ANDREW ELLICOTT,

As Commissioner for Virginia, in determining "the true astronomical boundary between the States of Pennsylvania and Virginia.

September 14th
Baltimore

LEVI TODD TO GOV. HENRY,

Setting forth the insecure condition of that part of the State, on account of the failure to maintain a proper military organization and a suitable militia Law. Fortunately, the Indians seemed not disposed to hostilities, but this peaceful state of things could not long exist, because of the irregular proceedings of "ill-disposed men always to be found in a back country," and a propensity for plundering in our Savage neighbors. * * * "Notwithstanding the Intention of the Kentucky people to apply to the Legislature to be separated" (as this will perhaps be a work of some time), he hopes the Executive will not neglect the necessity of enforcing a militia Law. This is not only necessary for defence, but to enable them to retaliate upon their Enemies when occasion should offer.

September 16th
Fayette county

JOSEPH MARTIN TO GOV. PATRICK HENRY.

Sir:

As I am Informed Colo. Arthur Campbell informed your Excellency that I was an Officer in the new State, I beg Lieve to assure your Excellency that the Report is vague, and that no Earthly thing shall prevail on me to neglect my duty as Agent for the State of Virga. so long as

September 19th
Chotee
Denies he was a member of the Council of State of Franklin.

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1785. September 19th Colonel Campbell's course towards him

I have the honour to fill that office. True it is the Assembly of Franklin, as they call themselves, Elected me one of their privy Council, which I refused to accept. Colo. Campbell made use of many arguments to draw me over to that party, by saying he wondered I would not Join them, as it would be much to my Interest, as I had a body of Valuable Lands in powel's Valley; that as soon as the new State would take place I might have a county Laid off there and the Courthouse on my Land, and convenient to the Seat of Government. My Reply to him was, that as long as I appeared in public character, I did not Look altogether at private Interest; that I was in Every Sence of the word against a New State, Which was the Last conversation we ever had on that subject.

The people in the new State are much Divided. Several of their Members Refused at their Last Assembly to take Seats. They have attempted to get the Representatives from these Towns, I suppose, to augment their numbers, as they might have a Representation in Congress, but that attempt was Baffled. Their number I cannot ascertain at present, but expect in my next to be more particular.

I am Your Excellency's mo. Humble and
most obt. servant, &c., &c.

September 19th

Jos. Martin to Gov. Henry.

Chotee

In accordance with his instructions he had paid every attention to the Indians since his return from Charleston in July last. He have never seen them in greater confusion than at present. Had had several meetings with them, but the death of his old friend, Oconstota, had deprived him of much influence.. The delay in forming a Treaty and the encroachments upon their Lands caused great anxiety among them. "The Old Tassel" had informed him that the Wyandot Chiefs said the Six Nations were at peace with Virginia, but all the other Tribes were hostile; that the Shawanese had gotten the promise of assistance in moving against Kentucky this fall from all the different Tribes, and that they intended to attack the frontiers of Virg'a also; that the former were to remain quiet until the arrival of their Western allies, when runners would then be sent to the Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Creeks with the war Hatchet. But Col. Martin thinks this move will not succeed, in as much as these latter have been well satisfied since he divided all the goods remaining in his hands equally among them. He apprehends the Chickamoggas will accept the war Hatchet, but he should set out on the next day "for that Quarter," and should neglect no effort to keep them in a good humour until the time for the proposed general Treaty in October and November next. He adds: "for the news from pensicola, I refer you to Mr. McDonald's letter, which I enclose. I have, with much pains and difficulty, opened a Correspondence with him. He was Agent for the Crown of Great Britain through the Course of the last war. He now resides at

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a large Indian Town, 25 miles south from Chickamogga, deals at Pensicola, has great Influence over the Indians in that quarter, and in case of war with the Spaniards might be very serviceable or very dangerous. I flatter myself that with his assistance I can furnish your Excellency with the earliest and best Intelligence from that quarter. 1785. September 19th

As a conveyance from here to Richmond is very uncertain, I have furnished Gen'l Russell with all the intelligence from this quarter, and requested him to send such as may be worth your Excellency's notice.

I have the honour to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most humble and

most obt. servant, &c., &c.

McDONALD'S LETTER, ENCLOSED WITHIN THE ABOVE.

Look Out Mountain, Sept. 6th, 1785.

Sir:

I rec'd your kind letter of the 30th Inst., and your Talk to the Head men, which I told them as well as I could. They seem'd satisfied. But I believe they would be better pleased to Have seen your self. I am sorry it is Inconvenient at present for me to Have the satisfaction of seeing you, as I Have Trusted several young fellows that are at Present out Hunting, and I expect them In soon, And if I was out of the way they might Deal with other People. I had a Letter a few days ago from the Creek nation, In which I am Informed that an Envoy had been appointed by the Court of Spain to Congress to settle the affairs of the Grand Boundary if they can, and that the Spaniards are Resolved to keep the Americans Very high up the Great River. That the Fort at Natchez is in a Formidable State. Troops were arriving Every day at Pensacola, all of whom were put on board Light vessels and sent to Orleans, and from thence to all Posts up the River, upon which they are very strong, at Least Between 5 and 6,000 men, and about as many more Ready on any Emergency to spare from the Towns of Pen'la, Orleans and Mobiel; and that the Court of Spain Have Invited 600 french familyes to Settle the Natches and other vacant Lands above that; and that they Had actually arrived In Eight Vessels, Orleans; and that there is a number of Americans Already Taken up at Natches and sent prisoners to Orleans. The principle of them, it is said, will be hanged.

This is all the news I have at present. * * *

Believe me, Sir, I shall never Turn Spaniard. This Is all at Present from

Sir, with True Esteem, yr. most obt. servant,

JNO. McDONALD.

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1785. INDIAN TALK ENCLOSED ALSO WITH THE ABOVE, AND THE STRING OF BEADS REFERRED TO, FOUND ENCLOSED.

Chotee, 19th Sept., 1785.

Brother:

September 19th

I am now going to speak to you. I hope you will hear me. I am an old man, and almost thrown away by my Elder Brother. The Ground I Stand on is very Slippery, tho' I still hope my Elder Brother will hear me, and take pity on me. As we were all made by the same great Being above, we are the Children of the same parent. I therefore hope my Brother will hear me.

You have often promised me in Talks that you sent me, that you would do me Justice, and that all disorderly people should be moved off our Lands, but the longer we wait to see it done the further it seems off. Your people have built houses in sight of our Towns. We don't want to quarrel with our Elder Brother. I therefore Beg that you, our Elder Brother, will have your Disorderly people taken off our Lands immediately, as their being on our Grounds causes great uneasiness.

The new State sets up a claim to the Indian's lands

We are very uneasy on acc't of a Report that is among the white people, that call themselves a New People, that lives on French Broad and nolechuchey. The Say the have Treated with us for the Lands on Little River. I now send this to let my Elder Brother know how it is. Some of them Gathered on French Broad and Sent for us to come and Treat with them, but as I was Told there was a Treaty to be held with us by orders of the great men of the thirteen States, we did not go to meet them, but some of our Young men went to see what they wanted. They first wanted the Lands on Little River. Our young men told them that they had no authority to Treat about Lands. They then asked them Liberty for those that were then Living on the Lands to remain there till the head men of their nation was Consulted on it, which our young men agreed to do. Since then we are told they claim all the Lands on the waters of Little River, and has appointed men among themselves to settle their disputes on our Lands and call it their Ground, but we hope you, our Elder Brother, will not agree to it, but will have them moved off. I also beg that you will send Letters to the Great Council of America and Let them know how it is. That if you have no power to move them off, they have, and I hope they will do it. I once more Beg that our Elder Brother will Take pity on us and not take our Ground from us because he is Stronger than we. The great Being above, that made us all, placed us on this Land and gave it to us, and it is ours. Our Elder Brother, in all the Treaties we ever had, gave it to us also, and we hope he will not think of taking it from us now.

I have sent with this Talk a String of White Beads, which I hope my Elder Brother will take hold of and think of his younger Brother, who is now in Trouble and looking to him for Justice.

Given out by the "Old Tassell" for himself and Whole Nation, in presence of the head men of the upper and Lower Cherokees, and Interpreted by me.

JAMES McCORMACK.

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ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. HENRY, 1785.

In regard to the murder of the unfortunate French Gentleman, Le Brun. It had been considered those accused of the crime were innocent (Taffe & Baker), but facts and a further trial tended to a contrary opinion. It was also thought he was murdered as much on account of his tory principles as for his money. The Tory party had exhibited unwarrantable partiality in allowing Baker to go at large, instead of "carrying him to the public Jail," the example being a "most pernicious one." September 23d Washington county Le Brun

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BENJAMIN HAWKINS TO P. HENRY, ESQ., September 26th

Setting forth the difficulties in connection with the proposed Treaties with the Southern Indians. It had been necessary, on account to the great distances apart, and the scarcity of provisions and want of transportation, to fix a later period than originally intended. The Commissioners had arranged on this account for a Treaty at Galphinton on the 24th Oct., and at Fort Rutledge on the 15th November. The Indians would probably be punctual, in as much as they were anxious for peace with the United States, "and are exceedingly humbled by the termination of the late war." Charleston, South Carolina Treaty with the Southen Indians

The Agent of Georgia, among the Creeks, had informed Gov. Ebert that the Americans on the Mississippi had captured the Fort from the Spaniards at the Natchez. He had just rec'd a letter from the Secretary of East Florida, informing him of the troubles in the neighborhood of "the Natchez," and expressing the opinion that the United States had "no right to a participation of the navigation of the Mississippi, or to an establishment in the Natchez district" The Americans on the Mississippi

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PETITION OF THOS. BOOTH, September 27th

To be relieved of fine of four hundred pounds of Tobacco for Contempt of Court, in not appearing to serve as a Grand Jury-man, &c. Was on his way from Philadelphia at the time of the sitting of the General Court. Henrico

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—— VALCK TO GOV. HENRY, September 29th

Acknowledging the receipt of his Exequator as Consul for Virginia on behalf of Their High mighinesses, the States General, and apologizing for his inability to pay his repects in person to the Governor, on account of the recent death of his mercantile partner, &c. Baltimore

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1785. October 10th — Sundry Bills of Exchange for various amounts, drawn at Sight by Benj. Hawkins, on State of Virginia, as Commissioner to treat with the Indians.

October 11th

ED. VALENTINE TO GOV. HENRY.

May it Please your Excellency:

Caroline county

Characteristic letter

When I sit down and Consider the many days and nights that I spent to secure our Great Globe America to be free and Independent, and See my misfortune in loosing my hand, I can't keep from shedding Tears To Think that my Children should come to want and I not able to work to prevent it. I can see a great many People in the Auditor's office, as Clearks likewise in Treasury, not more fiting for that Business then myself. If the Publick should want a man to do any Business as I can Execute, please to Try to Get me appointed to it if you can. I had Rather do anything than to be a pensioner, at least what I am able to do.

I am Sir, your H'ble serv't, at Command, &c., &c.

October 12th

SAM'L DEDMAN TO GOV. HENRY,

Mecklenburg

Facetious letter

Returning to him his Commission as Lieutenant of the Co. of Mecklenburg, and adding: "Your Circular Letter respecting this Piece of Business had every Respect shown it that was requisite, and I make no Doubt the Gentlemen who acted at your request, were actuated from the soundest principles," &c., &c. * * * Gentlemen, then, who has been slighted in the manner as above expressed, and accepts of a Commission, I must conclude, does it from a thirst of Preferment, and not through that Principle of good will to his Country, which Ought to Actuate every Person who wishes to hold an office under government. Further Observations might be made on your Letter, but I shall content myself with only adding that I have found Mr. Pope's Observation Verified, in it when he says:

"A discord harmony not understood,
All partial evil, universal good,
And Spite of Pride, in Erring Reason's Spite,
One truth is clear: Whatever is, is Right."

I am Y'r Excellency's mo. Obe't, Hum'l. Serv't, &c., &c.

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THOS. BARCLAY, CONSUL-GENERAL, TO THE GOV. OF VIRGINIA. 1785.

As the price of the arms for Virginia would be higher than at first supposed, he prefers to await the arrival of M. de la Fayette, expected on the 15th inst., before closing the contract for them. The arms would be exactly such as are used by the Swiss Guards, and the price the same as paid by His Majesty. The high reputation of the arms manufactured at St. Etienne induces him to procure them at that place, tho' the price be a little higher. He adds an assurance of the pleasure it will ever give him to execute the commands of the Governor, or to show his attachment and Respect for the State of Virginia. October 12th Paris

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RICH'D B'D LEE TO GOV. HENRY, October 14th

Enclosing record of the Contest of Wm. Bronaugh, of Loudon Co., for his proper place of seniority on the list of Justices for that County, adding: "The Justices who conceive themselves degraded are in a dilemma, between a delicate regard to themselves and the duty which they owe to their country, from which your Excellence alone can extricate them." Richmond

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Act of Assembly providing for the appointment of Five Delegates to the Congress of the United States, to Represent Virginia until the "first monday in novemqber next." October 17th Virginia Richmond

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BENJ. HAWKINS TO GOV. HENRY, October 17th

In regard to the five several Bills of Exchange, 1,000 doll's each, Payment for provisions, presents to Indians, &c., would be due on the day of the last Treaty meeting, and unless the bills should be negotiated in time, he should advise "sending a boat to Virginia expressly for the money." Charleston, South Carolina

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WILL. JOHNSTON TO GOV. HENRY, October 17th

Applying for the place of notary Public for the District of Kentucky. Louisville, Falls of Ohio

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1785. JAMES BOWDOIN TO GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

October 18th Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Boston

I have had the Honour of receiving your Excellency's Letter of the 25th August last, and, agreeably to your Request, will explain to you the object to which the Resolution of the General Court, lately transmitted to your Excellency, and referred to in your letter, is pointed. One of the States had passed an Act laying duties on foreign Goods imported from any of the United States, while the same Goods imported immediately from foreign countries were not chargeable with such Duties. By the same Act Duties were also laid on Rum, Loaf Sugar, and several other Articles which are manufactured in this Commonwealth. A preference thus given to Foreigners, to the prejudice of the United States, or either of them, appeared extraordinary. This Commonwealth felt itself affected, both as a member of the Confederacy and as an Individual State charged with Duties on its own manufactures, whereby its Citizens would probably be prevented from vending them to the Citizens of a sister State. The Measure appeared the more greivous because the Laws of the Commonwealth require no Duties on the manufactures of any of the United States, and their Citizens respectively, are, in point of Commerce, on a footing here with our own. The Act aforementioned gave Rise to the Revolution. Your Excellency will perceive it must particularly apply to that State. Accordingly an Expostulatory Letter was addressed to that State only. But as it must, in the opinion of every one, be a matter of the utmost Importance to the United States, that each of them should carefully avoid taking measures which might give just cause of offence to others, and tend to the Interruption of that Harmony and mutual Good will, upon which the General Safety and welfare depends. I took the liberty to enclose it to the Several States, being fully persuaded that if any of them should think proper to revise their Commercial Laws, and should thereupon observe an Instance of such a nature and Tendency, it would be altered or repealed. I flatter myself your Excellency will not think my motive improper. It will eventually afford me the happy occasion of laying before the General Court your Letter, expressing in very obliging Terms your own most sincere Regard for this Commonwealth, and an assurance of the Readiness of your assembly to manifest the same friendly Disposition towards us on all proper Occasions. I may venture to assure your Excellency that a similar disposition towards Virginia, and every branch of the Confederacy, prevails in the Government and People of this Commonwealth. As I understand your Assembly will meet the next month, I hope soon to be honoured with another Letter from your Excellency acquainting me that the subject of mine, of the 28th July, has been considered by that honourable Body, and that the Measures taken by our General Court have met with their Concurrence, or that such other Measures, as their Wisdom may have dictated, have been adopted by them, whereby the

Duties laid on goods between the several States

Objections to

Necessity of good feeling between the States

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Designs of the British Court, unreasonably to control our Trade, may be counteracted and frustrated. 1785. October 18th

I am, with Cordial Esteem and Respect,
Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble
Servant, &c.

J. AMBLER TO THE GOVERNOR, October 18th

Stating his inability to negotiate a Bill for £300 for the benefit of Mr. Jefferson, and asking his further instructions. Treasury office

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JOHN HOPKINS, CONT. RECEIVER, TO THE EXECUTIVE, October 18th

Acknowledging receipt of their order in Council to pay to holders of certificates of Liquidated claims on the United States the money he had rec'd from the State of Virg'a on account of the United States. He declines to comply until he shall have rec'd instructions from the "Board of Treasury," in as much as it would be an infraction of their orders. He has in hand Twenty thousand Dollars in Solid Coin, rec'd from the State, which he holds subject to their orders. Richmond

Specie collected in the State

J. AMBLER TO THE GOVERNOR, October 19th

Enclosing receipt given by "Capt. Littlepage for three hundred pounds," to be forwarded to Mr. Jefferson. Treasury

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JNO. SALMON, CORONER, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA. October 26th

Wm. Hunter, of that County, had accidentally killed his own son by shooting him with a gun. The father was promptly acquitted of any guilt in the act; but under the law the gun was declared a "Deodand," and as his Excellency alone has the power to restore the weapon, he, as Coroner in the case, recommends this be done. Henry county

A Deodand

BILL OF JAMES MCGAVOCK, October 28th

For drawing 73,693 lb. weight of Lead from the works to Fort Chiswell @ 20 s. pr. 200 lbs.

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1785. October 31st Point of Fork — Return of military Stores; Return of the clothing Department, and acc't of cash expended for the quarter ending at this date by Capt. John Peyton.

November 1st — CAPT. JOHN PEYTON TO COL. THOS. MERIWETHER,

Point of Fork. Price of provisions, &c. — Enclosing estimate of "Rations of Beef for 8 months, Forage, meal and armourers' wages for Twelve;" Corn (maize) higher than meal "owing to the short crop." He find is cheaper to feed them on this than on Flour (wheat) at 12 s. 6 d. pr. cwt.

November 5th — JNO. PIERCE TO ARCHIBALD BLAIR, ESQ., CLK. OF THE COUNCIL, IN REPLY.

Chatam — And enclosing a List of persons employed by Mr. Browne, former Commissioner under "the Provision Law" for the State during the late war; and by himself when acting also in that capacity. Their names and counties in which they served given.

November 7th — CAPT. JOHN PEYTON TO GOV. HENRY, BY MR. PRICE.

Sir:

Point of Fork — I am told that Mr. Ross has informed the H'b'le Executive that I have opened a Store at this post. I confess I have, and should have made it known myself had I supp'd it necessary. The principles that induced me to do so I hope will sufficiently appologize for my conduct therein. To say that I am not interested in the business would be to deny a fact, but I do declare on my Honor that I was not influenced by that alone, but rather to have it in my power to supply the Artificers and Guard with such necessaries as they from time to time realy stood in need of, and could not possibly have got on tolerable terms in this Quarter without some such step being taken.

* * * * * * * * * *

Should it be deemed incompatible with the line of my duty, I am at any time ready (after the sale of what few goods I have on hand) to relinquish all pretensions to ye business of that kind in future at this place.

I have the honor to be, &c., &c.

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ROBT. MITCHELL, MAYOR, TO THE GOVERNOR, IN REPLY, 1785.

Respecting prisoners who had escaped from the Jail, says: "I have don all in my power to procure Good men To retake them, but none such could be found that had Horses that would turn out on Such an Expedition, as the report prevails they prisoners is armed. But still thinke men might be procured had your Excellency offered a reward in your lett'r to me for apprehending them. November 8th Richmond Escaped prisoners

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OLIVER POLLOCK TO GOV. HENRY, November 9th

Informing him he had chosen Wm. Alexander, Esq., Commissioner to act on his part with Jerman Baker, Esq'r., appointed by the "Hon. the Executive," for the final settlement of his accounts with Virginia. Richmond

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N. WILKINSON, MILES SELDEN, JOHN HARVIE, THOS. PROSSER, AND WILLIAM FOUSHEE, COMMISSIONERS, TO THE GOVERNOR, MAKING REPORT. Nevember 10th

Sir:

We beg leave to inform your Excellency and Hon'ble Board that in conformity of an Act of the General Assembly entitled "An Act directing the Sale of Public Lands and other Property in or near the City of Richmond," and agreeable to Instructions from the Executive as per State made by the Directors by their Letter of the 16th July, 1784, we have proceeded to dispose of Seven acres of Land in Richmond, and Eight and a half Acres near Warwick (instead of 12 supposed by the Directors), which Land was originally the Property of Richmond

Zachariah Rowland,	by purchase,
Cockrane, Cunningham & Co.,	by Escheat,
Mirian Menzies,	by ditto,
French & Crawford,	by ditto,
Andrew Chalmer,	by ditto,
Richard Oswald,	by ditto,
& Rope-walk near Warwick,	by purchase,

which having been laid out into Lotts, Streets, Alleys, &c., in such a manner as we conceived would be most beneficial to the Public sale, as follows:

about 5 acres in Richmond for Specie,	£7,859. 7. 0.	
better than 1 Acre in ditto for Certificates.....		£5,873. 3. 4.
8 & ½ acres near Warwick for Specie,	484. 15. 0.	
amounting in Specie to.....	£8,344. 2. 0. &	
in Military Certificates to.....	£5,873. 3. 4.	as p'r account

of Sales hereunto annexed.

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1785. November 10th. That we have also, agreeably to the above recited Act, opened and received subscriptions for erecting the public Buildings on Shockoe Hill, viz:

Subscribers' Names.	Sum Subscribed.	Sum Paid.	Balance Due.
George Anderson	£ 25. 0. 0.	£	£25.
Smith Blakey	50.	28. 0. 0.	
John Beckly	10.	5. 0. 0.	
James Buchanan	150.	139. 13. 4.	
Henry Banks	50.	31. 13. 4.	18. 6. 8.
John Barret	25.	25.	
Robt. Boyd	50.	50.	
Samuel Couch	35.	22.	13.
Reuben Coutts	30.		
Richard Crouch	25.	25.	
John Clark	10.		10.
William Coutts, a Lott, No. 706			
Cohen & Isaacs	100.	62. 19. 2.	38. 0. 10.
John Depriest	10.		10.
Dixson & Holt	10.	10.	
Marcus Elean	30.	30.	
Jacob Ege	10.		10.
Samuel Ege	20.		20.
Milton Ford	10.		10.
William Foushee	50.	50.	
Gabriel Galt	30.	15.	15.
Anthony Geoghegan	10.	10.	
Reuben George	5.		5.
Francis Graves	75.	75.	
Gerard & Sevire	5.	1. 16. 8.	3. 3. 4.
John Harvie	50.	50.	
Benjamin Harrison, Jn'r	20.	20.	
Harrison, Nicols & Co	20.	20.	
Benjamin Lewis	30.	22. 7. 6.	7. 12. 6.
David Lambert	20.	7. 4.	12. 16.
Charles Lewis	40.		
John McKeand	25.	25.	
Robert Mitchell	50.	16.	34.
Dabney Miller	50.	50.	
Dabney Minor	20.	20.	
Alexander Macroberts	15.	15.	
Joshua Morris	25.		25.
Stephen T. Mason	9.		9.
Nelson, Heron & Co	50.	50.	
George Nicholson	30.	30.	
Nicolson & Prentis	10.		10.
John Orr	15.	15.	
John Pendleton	25.	24. 18. 5.	1. 7.
George Pickett	20.	20.	
John Pirkman	30.		30.
John Pryor	10.		10.
Pennock & Bowdoin	50.	25. 8.	24. 12.
Edmund Randolph	50.	50.	
William Richardson	5.		5.
William Russell	10.	10.	
Jesse Roper	15.		15.
John Smith	20.	20.	
John Stewart	20.		20.
Samuel Scherer	25.		25.
John Strobia	5.	5.	
Nicholas B. Seabrooke	75.	10.	67. 0.
Daniel Truehart	100.	66. 18.	33. 2.
George Todd	50.	2. 6.	47. 14.
Patrick Wright	10.	10.	
William White	25.	25.	
Isaac Younghusband	100.	58. 10.	41. 10.

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Making in the whole £1,949. 0. 0. subscribed, £1,249. 14. 5. paid, and £699. 5. 7. still to be collected, and a Lott of Land on Shockoe Hill, No. 706, supposed to be worth about 70£. 1785. November 10th

Thus, Sir, you will perceive the immediate fund for carrying on the Public Buildings amounts, by Subscriptions and Sales in Specie to £10,363. 2. 0., and by sales in Certificates to £5,873. 3. 4., bearing an Interest of 6 p. Cent. p. Annum, which Certificates are lodged with the Treasurer, and the Sum of £3,805. 12. 0., Specie, paid to the Directors. The reservations made and recommended by the Executive have been attended to.

The Foundery, with its Appertainances, we did not proceed to sell, as we were well convinced it would go far below its real value, from the peculiarity of circumstances under which it then laboured, and which could not possibly be removed while our power for disposing Continued. Since making Sale of the Land, the Directors have applied to recover part of Zachariah Rowland's Tenement, which had been sold to the Hon. Miles Selden and Mr. Henry Banks. As they find it will interfere with their Plan, those Gentlemen have agreed to restore it at the price purchased. The Directors, thinking a considerable part may be hereafter disposed of, there is no ascertaining with precision what the deduction from amount of sales will be, but it cannot be very great. Having compleated so much of the Business assigned us, request, Sir, the favour of you to lay our Transactions before the Executive for their inspection, and are, Sir,

With the most perfect Esteem and Respect,

Your Excellency's most ob't Serv'ts, &c,, &c., &c., &c.

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No	Description and Quantity of Property.	Front.	Depth.	To Whom Sold.	Price. £. s. d.	Certificates.	Specie
1,	Printing Office,	41 feet,	135 feet,	Wm. Duval for John Barret,	17. 15. per foot.		£727. 15. 0.
2,	Old Magazine,	40 "	129 "	" " for R. Baine,	16. 2. 0.		644. 0. 0.
3,	A piece adjoining do.,	20	135	James Buchanan,	33. 11. 0.		271. 0. 0.
4,	White Store,	53	71	Rawleigh Colston,	13. 6. 0.		704. 18. 0.
5,	A piece adjoining,	20	71	Henry Banks,	13. 0. 0.		260. 0. 0.
6,	A piece in rear of do.,	78		Doctor Foushee,			250. 0. 0.
7,	A piece joining Nelson's Lot,		45	Alexander Nelson & Co.,			105. 0. 0.
8,	A piece joining ditto,		45	Ditto,			201. 0. 0.
9,	A piece joining thereto,		27	Francis Graves,			75. 0. 0.
10,	A piece joining ditto,		27	Ditto,			53. 0. 0.
11,	The Corner on Warehouse Alley (supposed)		75 feet.	Ditto,			152. 0. 0.
12,	On Street to Shockoe Ware House	40 —	80 rear.	William Reynolds,	17. 15.	£710. 0. 0.	
13,	" "	56 —	80 "	Edward Carrington,	4. 15.		274. 8. 0.
14,	" "	36 —	80 "	Francis Graves,	6. 16.		244. 16. 0.
15,	" "	71½—	141 "	Ditto,			216. 0. 0.
16,	" "	71½—	171 "	Fuliver Skipwith,			300. 0. 0.
17,	" "	pr. plan,		William Foushee,			217. 0. 0.
18,	" "	ditto,		Ditto,			154. 0. 0.
19,	" "	ditto,		William Reynolds,			155. 0. 0.
20,	" "	ditto,		Robert Baine,			165. 0. 0.
21,	" "	ditto,		William Burton,			142. 0. 0.
22,	" "	ditto,		William DuVal,			142. 0. 0.
23,	below do. in the bottom	ditto,		William Hay,			61. 0. 0.
24,	" do.	ditto,		George Nicholson,			70. 0. 0.
25,	" do.	ditto,		William Depriest,			172. 0. 0.
26,	" do.	38,		Wm. Reynolds for C. Jones,			151. 0. 0.
27,	" do.	38,		Edward Carrington,			221. 0. 0.
No.		Shockoe		Hill.			
1,	Harrison & Co's Store,	45—60,		Benj. Harrison, Jn'r,			550. 0. 0.
2,	Land Office,	45—60,		Henry Banks,			425. 0. 0.
3,	Next to Land Office,	36—60,		Miles Selden,			202 10. 0.
4,	The remainder next to the last Lot,	36 or 37,		Ditto,			270. 0. 0.
5,	River Lott,			Edward Voss,			229. 0. 0.
	A small triangular piece in John McKeand's garden,			John McKeand,		250. 0. 0.	
No.		Warwick		k Land.			
1,	Lot as per plan,			Stephen Pankey,			20. 0. 0.
2,	do. with Houses,			Archibald Cary,			147. 0. 0.
3,	do. " "			Ditto,			30. 0. 0.
4,	do. " "			Ditto,			51. 0. 0.
5,	do. " "			Philip DuVal,			61. 10. 0.
6,	do. " "			Archibald Cary,			55. 0. 0.
7,	do. " "			Stephen Pankey,			50. 0. 0.
8,	do. " "			Ditto,			70. 0. 0.
No.		Below Richm		ond Hill.			
1,	One Lot	66 front	by 165,	Isaiah Isaacs,	20. 10. 0.	1,353. 0. 0.	
2,	do.	60	by 165,	M. W. for Rawleigh Colston,	18. 5.	1,095. 0. 0.	
3,	do.	do.	by do.	Ditto,	ditto,	1,095. 0. 0.	
4,	do.	66	by do.	Ditto,	25. 10. 0.	1,653. 6. 0.	
	A deduction from Certificate Sales as p'r opinion of the Attorney-General, viz: Isaiah Isaac's purchase on Rawleigh Cole't'ons do:				£	£6,156. 6. 0.	£8,344. 2. 0.
	Interest for 11 months on £1,353. 0. 82.18.4. / £3,843.60.200. 6.1.					283. 4. 5.	
						£5,873. 1. 7.	

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JOSEPH HORNSBY TO GOV. HENRY, IN REPLY. 1785.

Sir:

Agreeable to your Letter by Mr. Selden, I have had the strangers, supposed to be from Algiers, examined. They came to this city last Thursday, and from the accounts they give of themselves and their reasons for coming to this country, I have thought proper, by the advice of the Recorder and Aldermen, who were present at the examination, to send them up to your Excellency for further examination, and to be delt with as you in your Wisdom may think proper, and have issued my Warrant to the Serjeant of this City for that purpose. November 12th Williamsburg Algerines.

I am your Excellency's

Most Obed. humbl. Serv't, &c., &c.

The Senate agree to Resolution of the H. of Delegates of Oct. 27th, 1785, authorizing the Executive "to draw on the Treasurer for such a sum of money out of the Contingent Fund as may be necessary to make good the engagement already entered into for procuring a Statue of General Washington." November 14th

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COL. LE MAIRE TO THE HON'BLE BENJ. HARRISON, ESQ'R., November 15th

In regard to his petition for remuneration for advances made by him when in the service of Virginia, and closing with these words: "I can have the honor to assure you that I absolutely disposed of my Estate in france to fulfill my engagements for the State of Virginia, and that if the honorable House does not acquiesce with my humble request, an old french officer, who, with the approbation of his King, has served your Country with zeal and fidelity, shall be utterly ruined." Richmond Le Maire

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RICH'D HENRY LEE, WILLIAM GRAYSON, JAMES MONROE, EDWARD CARRINGTON AND HENRY LEE, J'N'R, ESQUIRES, November 15th

Chosen by Joint ballot to represent the Commonwealth of Virginia in Congress of U. S. "until the first Monday in November next." General Assembly Delegates appointed

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GEORGE MUTA, November 15th

Chosen by Joint ballot "Chief Justice of the Western District" to succeed Cyrus Griffin, Esq're, resigned. General Assembly

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1785. CREDENTIALS OF CARTER BRAXTON, ESQ'R.,

November 15th — Chosen member of the Privy Council to succeed Wm. Nelson, Esq'r., resigned.

November 15th — JOHN BROWNE TO ARCH. BLAIR, ESQ'R.,

James City county — Enclosing List of deputy Commissioners under the Provision Law, in 1781, appointed by himself, with the several Counties in which they acted.

November 16th — CAPT. JAS. BARRON TO GOV. HENRY.

Hampton State Boat Liberty

Sir:

Inclosed your Excellency will receive the Pay Role for the State Boat Liberty for the last three Months, which finishes the year's enlistment of her crew. She has been now running Ten years, and must have the Plank on her Bottom taken off and new Plank put on before she will be fitt for service again, also a new suit of sails, the whole of which will amount to sixty Pounds. * * * *
From this Boat's long service the Plank on her bottom has become so thin that she cannot be made tight, in which case she is very unsafe to cruise. There is no Hands now belonging to her but Capt. James and one of the Publick negroes.

I have the Honour to be, Sir, with great respect,
Your Excellency's most ob't Serv't, &c., &c.

November 20th — CAPT. JNO. PEYTON TO COL. MERIWETHER,

Point of Fork — Requesting him to "send up by ye waggon linnen for the Soldiers' shirts." "The Public negroes are also in want, and the wenches and children need some coarse Plains or Plaids to Cloath them with."

November 21st — B. BALL TO GOV. HENRY,

Culpepper county — Making application for some position, as Clerk or otherwise, by which he can support his family. He had lost all his property in the late war, had never been bred to business of any kind, but is anxious to do anything for and honest livelihood and to support his needy fumily.

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WM. EDMISTON, JAS. KINCANON, SAML. EDMISTON, JAS. THOMPSON, AND ARTHUR BOWEN, TO THE EXECUTIVE. 1785.

Please your Excellency and the honourable the Council:

Sir: A complaint being exhibited in the course of last summer against Colo. Arthur Campbell for mal conduct, contrary to the most sacred ties of Government, as well under his late County Lieutenancy as Judge of the Court of Washington, in which he continues to act, we have, consequent thereto, been honor'd by advice from our Lieutenant-Governor that the charges would be attended too by the Executive, which we still hope will meet your patronage in due Season, and the offender in your wisdom cited before a proper tribunal to answer the charges against him. Relying that the Executive will not suffer such attrocious insult to the Commonwealth of Virginia to pass unnoticed, we think it necessary to add fresh matter of complaint against Colo. Campbell, that, with the former now in your possession, his wicked and persevering conduct may be more clearly explained to your honourable board. When the decision of the Executive made it necessary to arrange the militia of Washington under the law of Eighty-four, and the Governor's proclamation was Issued for that purpose, which being accompanied with the field Officers' Commissions were laid before Washington Court, Colonel Campbell on the Bench objected to the proclamation and power of the Executive under the law, and quiting the bench address'd himself to the Court, telling them that the Militia law was arbitrary, tiranicle and oppressive; and after condemning the last Assembly for enacting the law, said that the power of enforcing the law was in the Court, not in the Executive, and that the Court should by no means suffer the field Officers to qualify; Also hoped the Court and People of the County would pay no obedience to the law or proclamation. Colo. Campbell finding some opposition to his measures by the Court, aledged that the executive having suspended the operation of the law till Jan'y, 1786, had not a right to take off that suspension, by which time he made no doubt the law would be repealed; and after finding Some of the Court opposed his propositions, pled (notwithstanding the danger of the frontiers) that the Court should not suffer the field Officers to qualify at that time. *His* constant endeavours to prejudice the citizens of this County ever since against the law will appear from a petition to the Assembly which he promoted. November 24th

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AND. ELLICOTT TO GOVERNOR P. HENRY, November 28th

Urging the payment of the remainder of his account against the State of Virginia. The Commissioners on the part of the state of Pennsylvania had received the thanks of their Council for their services, altho' these had been attended with more than ordinary expence.

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1785. COL. LE MAIRE TO GOV'R HENRY.

December 3d Richmond

Sir:

As I allways have taken the well fare of your Country at heart, and being devoted to its service, I should be glad to manifest on every occasion that I still preserve the same sentiments. I fear the Algerines might trouble your Coast. I fear some ill-designed Brittons, Irish, Jersey, or Guernsey men, under the cloak of a Barbarian, with an Algerine Commission, might molest the Trade of the Bay. As for the French, your faithful allys, you have nothing to fear.

I beg leave to offer to your Excellency my Services, and to propose you to command me to set of for France without delay, properly qualified and commanded to his Excell'y, Mr. Jefferson, in order to obtain of the Court of france a Frigate for the use of the State of Virginia, which I will engage to procure at a reasonable price, payable some years hence.

This Frigate I will make depart from Europe immediately for Cape Henry with her Guns, ammunition, &c., in the Hold, commanded by three french officers, and only so many men aBoard, as if she was a merchantman. Immediately after her arrivall the whole ship's Company shall be dismissed and sent home in the King's pakets at Norfolk. Then your Excellency will give the Command to an American Captain after your own Choice, who will have her put in order of defence, and enlist so many Seamen as necessary for that purpose. Indeed, I would offer myself for the task, as to the north there are plenty, and, in my opinion, it will be easy to engage them. Concerning the Frigate, I shall do my utmost endeavour to have her within the Capes in four months' time, fitted out in a regular order, Sails, rigging, &c. That nothing shall be wanting to stop her career, and if your Excellency thinks proper, I may bring in her the Arms the Marquis de la Fayette has promised. As for myself, I ask nothing; to the contrary, I shall think myself perfectly happy to shew your Excellency my Zeal and my attachements for your Country's cause, and am at a minute's warning ready to obey your Commands, and can have the honor to assure your Excellency, that by the protection I enjoy in my Country and under your Sanction, I cannot fail in my mission.

I have the honour to be with respect and Esteem, Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble

Servant, &c., &c.

December 5th Richmond

THOS. UPSHAW TO GOV. HENRY,

Making application for the place of Superintendent of the Public Magazine. During the war he had frequently been entrusted with duties of this character, and therefore considers himself peculiarly fitted for the office.

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JOHN TYLER TO GOV'R HENRY. 1785.

Sir:

I received your favor with the inclos'd papers relative to the Funeral of our much-lamented Friend, Mr. Hardy, and am of opinion his Relatives shou'd not be made acquainted with the circumstances any farther than the manner in which he was honor'd by his country. His Father has been much injured by the war, his Family is large, and such a sum as £150 wou'd distress him greatly, as I know he would most certainly encounter any difficulty rather than not pay it. Surely a country blest with so great and good a man, both in public and private Life, can never hesitate to discharge the expences incur'd by their orders. December 5th Sunday morning Death of Mr. Hardy.

'Tis a tribute justly due to Genius and merit, that it wou'd be a fault to pass by unpaid; moreover, when we consider the principle to be truly republican, and holding out inducements to the good and great, however indigent, to step forth in the public Councils.

I am, with sincere respect,

Your Excellency's most humble Serv. &c., &c.

WM. FOUSHEE TO GOV. HENRY. December 6th

Sir:

Agreable to the request of your Excell'y and Hon'ble Board, I have this evening accompanied Colo. Meriweather in making full enquiry of the Persons and Baggage of the three Algerines or Moors. Find a number of Papers, which induce suspicion only from their being contradictory as to the names and Purposes which these People are called by and intention of persuit. On being enterrogated on these points, they answer that these Papers being written in English, they cannot say what the contents are, or be accountable for the mistakes of those who may have written them. They deny being Algerines, but say they are Moors. No offensive or defensive weapons appear on them, or in their Baggage. One of them only was possessed of any money. The whole amount of his stock was sixteen Pounds two shillings and 1½ d. Lest your Excellency may not have been apprised of one circumstance, I take the liberty of observing that they are in possession of a Receipt from the Capt. of the Douglass, for Thirty Pounds, the amount of Passage for these. They say this money was borrowed from a Jew in London. They have several papers which bear marks of authenticity, but being in Hebrew their contents are unknown. They say the Papers admit them to places of worship. This may be so, or they may be Letters of credit for any thing which I know to the contrary. Understanding that they were to go to Norfolk instead of Philadelphia, seem'd much distressed, and made many questions respecting this determination. Tho' I confess myself much dissattisfied with the appearance and account of these People, have been able to make no further discovery than what is above related, Richmond

& am, Sir, with the utmost Esteem and Respect,

Your Excellency's mo. ob't serv't, &c., &c.

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1785. L. WOOD, J'N'R, TO THE GOVERNOR.

December 8th Richmond Solicitor's office

He had examined Col. Le Maire's claim, and the grounds upon which it was based, and cannot report in favor of its being paid by the State. In as much as the Executive seem disposed to value the military and other services rendered by that officer, he suggests that the £2,837. 3. 2. be paid to Col. Le Maine without entering into the reasons therefor. He is the more induced to recommend this course, in as much as he can find no proof upon which to base the claim, and it would deprive Col. Le Maire and others of all cause of complaint in the future.

December 9th

The Legislature request the Executive to "lay before" them the Books concerning the "Public Foundery at West Ham."

December 12th

CAPT. JAS. BARRON TO GOV'R HENRY,

Hampton

Informing him of his having detected the Ship St. Thomas smuggling twenty-three hhds. rum and fourteen hundred bush'ls Salt, and one hhd. Sugar. Col. Parker had secured the duty, and exacted the Penalty of £200. The ship was in the possession of the Boat Patriot. He adds: "The Liberty's services are much wanting, as it is impossible for one Boat to attend the Trade in Jas. and Norfolk Rivers, when so many daily arrivals happen." He encloses copy of this Ship's manifest, by which it will appear she had on board 10 Puncheons Rum, Salt, Sugar, fruit, ginga, and "5,000 feet lignumvitæ."

The Boat Patriot

December 12th

GEO. GIBSON, COL. 1ST STATE REG'T,

George Muter, Col. S. G. R., Chas. Dabney, Lieut.-Colo., T. Meriwether, Christ. Roane, Patrick Wright, Edm. C. Read, Jno. Rogers, Peter Kemp, Jas. Kemp and Chas. Magill, Officers of the State Line, asking that Caveats may be issued preventing grants to all others than themselves for the lands on the South Side the Tennessee River, set aside as bounty territory for their benefit, &c.

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JAMES MONTGOMERY, OF THE COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, 1785.

Having exhibited a charge against Arthur Campbell for mal-practices and misconduct in his Office of a Justice of the Peace for the said County in the form following (to wit): December 13th In Council

1st. That he advised persons chargeable with public Taxes to refuse payment thereof.

2ndly. That he advised Free holders against electing members to the General Assembly—and

3dly. That he attempted by various means, openly and Secretly, to induce the Inhabitants of Washington County to Separate from this Commonwealth—

And William Edmiston, James Kincannon, Samuel Edmiston, James Thompson, and Arthur Bowen, of the said County, having also accused the said Arthur Campbell in the terms following, to wit: That he left the Bench on a day when the Court was setting, and attempted to persuade the Court that no regard ought to be paid to the Militia Law on the Governor's proclamation for enforcing it. Order in Council

The Board on considering the Said Charges, and pursuance of the Power given the Executive by an Act of Assembly "to extend the powers of the Governor and Council," Advise that the first Monday in April next be set apart for enquiring into the Charges aforesaid, at the Council Chamber, in the City of Richmond, and that the said Arthur Campbell have notice of such intended inquiry, and be furnished with a copy of the Charges exhibited against him on or before the first Day of February next, and that the parties be at Liberty, from that period to the fifteenth Day of March next, to take Depositions of Witnesses respecting the Charges aforesaid, give ten Days previous notice of the time and place of taking the Same, and that when taken they be transmitted to his Excellency, the Governor, under the hand and Seal of the Magistrate or Magistrates, who attended the taking such Depositions. The Governor orders accordingly. Depositions to be taken Charges vs. Arthur Campbell

Attest:

A. BLAIR, *C. C.*

THOS. NEWTON, J'N'R TO GOV. HENRY, December 15th

Giving account of the wanton conduct of a ship in running down at night the boat of the Brig Hansford, causing the loss of three men by drowning, and requesting the Governor to issue his Proclamation, offering reward for Such information as should bring to justice the Captain of the Same. Norfolk

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1785. December 16th In Council Maryland — W. SMALLWOOD, TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOV'R OF VIRGINIA,

Enclosing a "supplement to the Act establishing a Company for opening and extending the navigation of the River Potomack," &c.

December 20th — EDWARD HILL, ANDERSON SCOTT, HARRY GAINES AND LARKIN SMITH,

King and Queen county — Members of the Court, recommending to the Executive the appointment of Mr. Richard Bagby as Deputy Inspector at Mantapike and Frazers' Warehouses, in place of Mr. Thos. Stevens, deceased, a day or two before.

December 21st — CAPT. JAS. BARRON TO GOV. HENRY,

Hampton — Giving information of his having captured one Philip Craver and his vessell, having on board the stolen tobacco, at anchor under Sewell's Point. He had delivered him and his crew over to a magistrate, but should keep the sloop until further orders, &c.

December 23d — J. AMBLER TO THE GOVERNOR,

Treasury office — Expressing his great concern at being obliged "to take the monies from those funds appropriated by Law to discharge the Interest on the army debt," in order to meet the drafts upon the Contingent Fund, and begging advice accordingly.

December 24th — WM. ROSE, KEEPER OF P. JAIL, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Under Instructions from the Executive, Col. Meriwether, during the past year, had been making efforts to contract for supplying the prisoners with provisons. He had been urged to take this Contract, but, after thanking Col. Meriwether for the offer, "he gave him to understand that, being Keeper of the Prison and receiving a salary from the Public for my Services, my Feelings were too nice to consent to any Thing, however advantageous it might be to my Family, that bore the most distant appearance of double Gain." No contract had been made, and he had been, since that time, supporting the prisoners out of his own funds. The money thus advanced by him had, in part, been refunded, but upon application, lately made, payment was refused, the warrant issued in his favor by the Treasurer, and he is now forced to rely upon the Executive to rescue him from his difficulties. He has on hand "eight Days' Bread for the People, but not a morsel of Meat."

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DAVID ROSS TO GOV. HENRY, 1785.

In regard to the Post at the Point of Fork. He is perfectly satisfied" with the proposal that Joseph Carrington should act as commissioner in conjunction with some one chosen by himself, to adjust his claims against the State for the use of the property at that place, and should go up as soon as possible to comply with it. He should have a plot made of the amount of Land Supposed to be necessary, the amount of rent to be charged, and the cost of the fire-wood and timber required in the future, &c. December 27th Petersburg

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WM. BARRET TO GOV'R HENRY, December 27th

Urging the payment of four months' wages, due "the salaries of the first Regiment of Dragoons." The rest of the army had long since been paid, "but from Colo. Baylor's Illness and Colo. Washington's being a Prisoner at the time the Army was discharged, that Regiment was neglected.

GEORGE CLARK OF WASHINGTON COUNTY DEPOSETH,

That at February, Washington Court, last, that he was in company there in course of the same day with Colonel Arthur Campbell, Charles Cummings, Capt. Robert Craig, when conversation arose concerning the collection of the taxes for the present year, to be made by Capt. James Montgomery, sheriff of the County: That after some conversation thereupon, Colo. Campbell, R. Craig, and Charles Cummings, did avowedly recommend to the said deponent to pay no taxes in future to the State of Virginia; That they then observed and said further, that as the deponent was an old residenter or settler in the county, his paying, or agreeing to pay, the taxes wood be a bad president, that might mislead the people of the County; and Robert Craig said to the deponent he was a damned fool if he did pay the taxes to be demanded. And further your deponent saith not.

GEORGE CLARK.

Witness:
JAS. MONTGOMERY,
ARTHUR BOWEN.

To his Excellency, PATRICK HENRY, ESQUIRE,
Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia,
and the honorable the Council of State:

The Petition of Sundry Freemen, whose names are thereunto subscribed, Humbly Sheweth—That being pleased with the name, and wishing to Glory in the reality of being Citizens of a Commonwealth, It is with in-

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1785. finite Concern that we are constrained to address your Excellency on a Subject that we apprehend will eventually endanger our Liberties—we mean the addoption of the new militia Law—that we believe the Constitution is imperfect in some particulars; but whilst we retain it as an acknowledged Plan, springing from a higher Source than the Ordinary legislature, we ought to consider it, until alltered by the Same authority as the Basis of the Laws; and all legitimate Government, besides an allegiance, point out to us as a duty to maintain it inviolate—that former examples, both ancient and modern, our own experience and the reason of things tell us that if an infraction is once made, and that by a delegated power, then there will be no right, however sacred, that is possessed by the Citizen, but may be usurped, and our Government ere long Terminate in anarchy or Despotism, those mournfull calamities that too often befall the human race.

To avert such direful events, to recur to first Principles, and to reinstate our Liberties in their pristine vigour, we are encouraged to approach, with freedom and Truth, a patriotic Cheif Magistrate and an enlightened Council, humbly praying that the powers with which your honorable board are invested may be now exercised by refusing to execute the aforesaid Act, as being unconstitutional and oppressive; or, if need be, assemble the legislature at an earlier period than it stands adjourned to, That we may have an opportunity to seek redress from a legal Tribunal, And your Petitioners shall pray:

ANDREW WILLOUGHBY, J'N'R,
MIGHAEL HIGGINS,
JAMES ——,
SAML. DAVIS,
JAMES CRAIG,
JOHN CUMMINGS,
JAMES LOGAN,
GEORGE FINLEY,
ROBT. MONTGOMERY,
ROBT. CAMPBELL,
JOSEPH ACKLEN,
SAML. ACKLEN,
CHAS. CUMMINGS,
SAMUEL HUSTON,
FRA. ALLISON,
JOHN PRESTON,
THOS. CUMMINGS,
JAMES CUMMINGS,
JOHN TROUSDALE,
DAVID KINKEAD,
JAMES DUNLOP,
AND'R. DAVISON,
JOHN CAMPBELL,

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THOS. OSBURN, 1785.
JOHN DAVIS,
ROB'T JOHNSTON,
JAMES MOORE,
NATH. WILLOUGHBY,
GILBERT WATSON,
DAVID WATSON,
JOHN CHRISTIAN,
WM. BRADLEY,
ROB'T GRAIG,
WM. CRAIG, AND OTHERS.

ACCOMAC, SHERIFF, PETITION FOR RELEIF.

Sheriff's Petitions for remission of fines, &c

He is unable to collect the taxes on account of scarcity of money and the poverty of the people.

Albemarle, Sheriff (Rhodes), unable to collect taxes or sell property for want of bidders.

Albemarle, sheriff prays for relief because he could not get Hemp inspected; corn and money scarce, and no bidders for property destrained, &c.

Amelia, Sheriff (Brooking) prays for relief; great scarcity of money.

Brunswick, Sheriff reports the people unable to pay.

Campbell, Sheriff (Calloway) pleads great scarcity of money.

The people unable to pay their taxes, &c

Chesterfield, Sheriff (Bass) prays indulgence, &c.

Cumberland, Sheriff " "

Dinwiddie, Sheriff prays for releif; reports low price of tobacco and scarcity of money.

Elizabeth City, Sheriff prays for releif, &c.; great scarcity of money.

Fauquier, Sheriff " "

Gloucester, Sheriff (Sir John Peyton) asks for releif for same reasons.

Goochland, Sheriff prays for releif, &c.

Isle of Wyght, Sheriff " "

Jas. City, Sheriff prays for releif; the people exceedingly poor.

King George, Sheriff " " scarcity of money.

Lancaster, Sheriff, " "

Louisa, Sheriff prays for releif; great scarcity of money; no taxes collected, and no property can be sold to pay them.

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1785. Lunenburg, Sheriff prays for releif; scarcity of grain and money.

Nansemond, Sheriff " " &c.

Northampton, Sheriff " " "

Northumberland, Sheriff " "

Princess Anne, Sheriff prays for releif; scarcity of money; the people averse to paying taxes.

Powhatan, Sheriff petitions for releif.

Spotsylvania, Sheriff reports his failure to collect taxes on account of the low price of tobacco and great scarcity of money.

Southampton, Sheriff prays for releif; the people unable to pay taxes.

Surry, Sheriff " "

Westmoreland, Sheriff unable to collect taxes on account of scarcity of corn and money.

1786. ED. RANDOLPH, ATT'Y-GENERAL, TO THE GOVERNOR.

January 2d Richmond Giving his opinion in the case of Craver, accused of stealing tobacco in Chesterfield and apprehended in Eliz. City Co., that the Executive have the right to order the sheriff of said County to remand the accused to Chesterfield for trial, where the theft was said to have been committed.

January 3d Hopewell on the Keowee Printed copy of "Articles of a Treaty concluded at Hopewell, on the Keowee, near Seneca, old Town, between Benjamin Hawkins, Andrew Pickens, and Joseph Martin, Commissioners Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, of the one part, and Piomingo, Head warrior and First Minister of the Chickasaw nation, Mingatushka, one of the leading cheifs, and Latopoia, first beloved man of the Said nation, Commissioners Plenipotentiary of all the Chickasaws, of the other Part."

January 5th WM. ROSE TO THE EXECUTIVE,

Richmond Enclosing petitions of Prisoners in the Jail. One praying him to remove one Joseph ——— "out of the room where we are forced to Stay, as the Greivous Smell Is So Externally and perceivable that we can hardly Contain or Sustain Life with him, for the Pox is so Grounded on him that he is almost Rotten, which Raise so pernicious a Smell we all feel it perceivably."

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BENJ. LOGAN, JOSEPH CROCKETT, RICH'D TERRELL, AND JOHN FOWLER, TO EDMUND RANDOLPH, ESQ'R, — 1786.

Urging the importance of securing the ammunition granted for the defence of the Kentucky frontier early in the Spring. — January 5th

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JOHN TYLER, ESQ'R., — January 6th

Appointed "Judge of the Court of Admiralty," in place of Benj. Waller, Esq'r., resigned. — General Assembly

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ST. GEORGE TUCKER TO THE GOVERNOR. — January 6th

Sir:

When I did myself the honor of accepting the Commission of County Lieutentant of Chesterfield, I had no idea that a Law, which the Legislature of Virginia had considered as Salutary, would be rendered abortive by the dissenting voice of the people. — Chesterfield county

Since my return to Virginia, after an absence of some months, I find that the plan of organizing the militia under that Law in Chesterfield is impracticable, from the almost uniform concurrence of the officers appointed by the Executive in declining or returning the Commissions which I had forwarded to them previous to my departure.

This circumstance alone should by no means have operated with me, did not the general clamour against the principles of the Bill convince me that the Act is but too generally considered as incompatible with the principles of our Constitution.

Thus situated, I find myself incapable of rendering those services to my Country which it was not only my Duty, but my Ambition, to have exerted on any occasion wherein they should be required. I am, therefore, induced from a thorough conviction of the Futility of my wishes on the subject, to resign a post which I cannot hope to fill with advantage to this Country or with credit to myself. I must, therefore, beg the favor of your Excellency to accept my resignation of the post of County Lieutenant of Chesterfield.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient Servant, &c., &c.

THE EXECUTIVE — January 8th

Authorized to defray the expenses of saving "the Tobacco in the late fire in the city," by selling a sufficient quantity of damaged tobacco. — House of Delegates

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1786. JOHN HARVIE, MAYOR OF CITY OF RICHMOND TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

January 9th Richmond city — I am instructed by the Common Hall of this City to inform your Excellency that the Hall entertain the most perfect Sense of the Service assigned them by the Hon'ble Board of Council, in the offer that you make the Corporation of the Labour of those prisoners under conditional Reprieves, that are now in the Publick Goal. But for a variety of causes that appear forcible to the Hall, they think it Inadvisable to accept of these prisoners upon the terms of your offer.

I have the Honor to be Y'r Excellency's
most ob't and very H. Serv't, &c.. &c.

January 12th — H. RANDOLPH TO THE GOVERNOR,

Soliciting his influence in enabling him to retain his present position of Clerk in the Auditor's office, to which he was elected in May, 1780.

January 13th — RESOLUTIONS

House of Delegates — Concerning the joint Commerce of Maryland and Virginia. That the damages on foreign Bills of Exchange should be the same in each state; that foreign bills of Exchange should be considered of equal rank with debts upon contract in writing.

That duties on imports and exports (if laid) should be the same in both States; that the Legislatures of said States should appoint, at their annual meeting, not less than three nor more than five Commissioners, who shall confer with each other on the commercial policy of the two States, and that they be required to meet annually in the third week of September for such conference.

January 14th — RESLOUTION PASSED

House of Delegates — Requiring a final settlement of the Books and accounts of the Public Foundry at West Ham; to order collection of all dues to the State, and to pay all claims against the same. Some person to be appointed to adjust these claims, and to establish the proper allowance to the Commissioner and to John Reveley for their services in erecting and manageing the said Foundry.

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THOS. BARCLAY TO GOV. HENRY, 1786.

In regard to furnishing arms for the State of Virginia, and enclosing contract for the delivery of 3,400 Stand of arms, to be made at the Royal manufactory at Tulle, on the same terms, to be subject to the same tests as those made for the use of the King's troops. The minister at war had given permission that they should be made at the Royal manufactory. The Marquis de la Fayette approved the contract; also, contract for 3,400 Cartridge Boxes, Belts and Bayonets, and "Slings for Fusils," to be made of the best material. He should depart for Bordeaux at once to contract for the 200 Barr. Gun Powder, 100 Reams Cartridge paper and 100 Thousand Flints. He had sent to L'Orient, to be forwarded via New York to the care of the Delegates in Congress from Virginia, three Fusils made on purpose as samples, with the prices at which they can be furnished at Dunkirk. Mr. Jefferson and the Marquis de la Fayette had approved his measures. The Cartouche Boxes to be stamped with the words "Virginia Militia." He adds: "The First Bust of the Marquis de la Fayette will be finish'd in about two Months; and the second, which shall be shipp'd from Havre, in four." January 16th Paris

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COL. LE MAIRE TO GOV. HENRY. January 16th

Sir:

I confess it grieves me to trouble you so often, but I intreat you to listen to the voice of sorrow, and you will see how much I am to be pityed. I am no merchant. I gain nothing. I have no other quality, as being an old, poor unfortunate soldier, and whose situation is affecting. A stranger in this country, without money, without resource, threatened with prison; this is the whole truth. It is hard for a man of Forty-Five years of age—36 of service—to have the most frightfull prospect in the futurity. I must go back to France, and cannot for want of the needful, and for the same reason I cannot stay in America, as it is to painfull for a man of feeling to strech out his hand asking for a piece of Bread. Death is a Thousand Times more preferable. It is now a year that I am back, and has cost me a good deal to sollicit what is justly due to me, as likewise for the Lands granted to me as a Bounty, and I can not obtain one or the other. Give me leave to observe to your Excellency it is very hard for me to see petitions granted to people who gained money with the State, and that I am left in distress, flattering myself to have served the State with zeal and fidelity. Richmond

I have the honor to supplicate your Excellency and the honorable Council to favor me so farr as to lett me have Three Hundred Pounds, in order to purchase what is necessary for my voyage to France and to pay what I owe. My gratitude shall be without bounds, and I can assure

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1786. January 16th your Excellency, Mr. Jefferson, and the Court de Vergennes, who persuaded me to come over, will join me in thanks. For the remainder you will be so kind as to order warrants speedily, and I shall acknowledge it as a favor.

I have the honor to be, with respect and Esteem,
Your Excellency's
most obedient and very h'bl. Servant, &c., &c.

January 17th N. CABELL TO GOV. HENRY,

In behalf of Mr. Roderick McCullock, Sheriff of Amherst, praying to be relieved of the Interest and Damages due against him and his sureties, he having failed to collect the Taxes in his County, altho' every exertion had been made to do so, "but from the scarcity of money, the distress of the People, and their not having it in their power to make their collections within the time prescribed by law," it had been entirely out of the power of himself and his Deputies.

January 19th PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS

House of Delegates In regard to Constructing the Canal connecting the waters of the Chesapeake and those of North Carolina. (These appearing in full in the Journal of the H. of Delegates need not be recorded here.)

January 19th THOS. JOHNSON, LATE SHERIFF OF LOUISIA, TO THE EXECUTIVE,

Praying for relief against the Judgement of the Gen'l Court for failure to account for the Taxes of said County for the year 1784. He had "distrained for the Taxes and sold the property so distrained, which, on account of the scarcity of specie and the poverty of the inhabitants went exceedingly low." That several people, on whose property he had distrained, came in the night time and carried off their slaves, Horses, &c., which he had in his possession, "not that they were opposed to the payment of Taxes, but could not suffer their property to sell for a trifle." He had been promised pay when the people sell their Tobacco. "Many have privately moved out of the county; some of their effects I have attached in Albemarle, Hanover, and Henrico." Wm. Duval, Esq'r., testifies in his behalf, that it was due to the poverty of the people that the taxes could not be collected; land could be purchased there at two shillings an acre valued at twenty; he had purchase a large tract at that price. One of Mr. Johnson's Deputies had told him that in his part of the County the deficit was "near Sixteen hundred pounds." Many planters had refused to pay until they could sell their Tobacco, and some had threatened to shoot the sheriff if he came to distrain upon their property.

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RESOLUTION PASSED, 1786.

Authorizing the payment of Col. Le Maire's claim as settled and allowed by the Executive in warrants on the Auditor, one-half out of Public Taxes for the present year, and the other half in the 1787. January 19th House of Delegates

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RESOLUTION January 19th

Empowering the Executive to appoint a proper successor to Ed. Carrington, resigned, to act as Commissioner to settle the acc'ts of expences incurred in the "acquisition and Defence of the Western Territory," and to afford him Compensation therefor. House of Delegates

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B. STARK TO THE GOVERNOR. January 20th

Having been informed of the proposed change in the Auditor's office, by which one member of the Board of Auditors will be dropped, he expresses the desire to be retained in that duty, adding, "I do not pretend to Superior merit or abilities to my colleagues in office, but having been many years in the public service, in different departments, I feel an unwillingness to quit it, and that reluctance is not a little increased by the reflection of being discarded as a useless servant." Richmond

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RESOLUTION January 21st

Directing the Executive to cause all the Artillery of the State to be collected and put in proper order for use if necessary. House of Delegates

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CAPT. JAS. BARRON TO GOV. HENRY. January 22d

He sends under Charge of Lieut. Barron "Craver and his two men." He, himself, is very Sick, or he should go up with the Sloop as ordered by his Excellency. Mr. Barron carries also the pay Roll of the "Patriot.." Hampton

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DR. W. FOUSHEE January 22d

Certifies that the prisoner recently shot in attempting to escape may be safely returned to the Public Jail.

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1786. WM. HETH TO THE GOVERNOR,

January 24th Wales, Va — Acknowledging of his appointment as Commissioner to Settle the Western affairs in place of Ed. Carrington, resigned.

January 24th Paris — THOS. JEFFERSON TO THE GOVERNOR OF VA.

Sir:

I have been honored with your Excellency's two letters of Sept. 10th, and that of Oct. 14th, 1785. The former were brought me by Mr. Houdon, who is returned with the necessary moulds and measures for General Washington's Statue. I fear the expences of his journey have been considerably increased by the unlucky accident of his tools, materials, clothes, &c., not arriving at Havre in time to go with him to America, so that he had to supply himself there. The money which you were so kind as to send by Capt. Littlepage, for the purposes of this statue, he found himself obliged to deposite in New York, to satisfy a demand made on him there. This was a debt which he owed to Mr. Jay. He assures me that in a settlement with his guardian the latter took credit for this debt, so as to be answerable to Mr. Jay for it, and of course to the State, now that Mr. Jay is paid with the State's money. I mention this circumstance, that your Excellency may be enabled to take the earliest measures for recovering this money and indemnifying the State.

Houdon's return to France

Mr. Littlepage, to satisfy me, had obtained from the M. de la Fayette his engagement to stand bound as Mr. Littlepage's security for the paiment of this money, but knowing the punctuality and responsibility of his guardian, I did not suppose a security necessary. Besides, if a loss was to be incurred, I knew too well the sentiments of the State of Virginia towards the M. de la Fayette to suppose they would be willing to throw that loss on him. I therefore acted as I thought your Excellency and the Council would have directed me to act could you have been consulted. I waited on the Marquis, and in his presence cancelled his name from the obligation which had been given me, leaving only that of Mr. Littlepage. I have now the honor to inclose you one of those instruments, duplicates of which had been given me by Mr. Littlepage. The first of the Marquis's busts will be finished next month. I shall present that one to the City of Paris, because the delay has been noticed by some. I hope to be able to Send another to Virginia in the course of the summer. These are to cost three thousand livres each.

Busts of Lafayette

The agreement for the arms has been at length concluded by Mr. Barclay. He was so much better acquainted with this business than the Marquis Fayette or myself, that we left it altogether with him. We were sensible that they might have been got cheaper, but not so good. However, I suppose he has given you the details of his proceedings, so as to render them unnecessary from me. It will be eight months before they will be

Purchase of arms, &c.

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ready. The cause of this, too, Mr. Barclay told me he would explain to you. It is principally to ensure their goodness. The bills remitted to pay for them have been honoured, and the money is lodged in Mr. Grand's hands, who was willing to allow a small interest for it. 1786. January 24th

An improvement is made here in the construction of the musket, which may be worthy of attention. It consists in making every part of them so exactly alike that every part of any one may be used for the same part in any other musket made by the same hand. The government here has examined and approved the method, and is establishing a large manufactory for the purpose. As yet the inventor has only completed the lock of the musket on this plan. He will proceed immediately to have the barrel, stock and their parts executed in the same way. I visited the workman. He presented me the parts of 50 locks taken to pieces and arranged in compartments. I put several together myself, taking the pieces at hazard as they came to hand, and found them fit interchangeably in the most perfect manner. The tools by which he affects this have, at the same time, so abridged the labour that he thinks he shall be able to furnish the musket two livres cheaper than the King's price. But it will be two or three years before he will be able to furnish any quantity. Improved musket

I have duly received the propositions Messrs. Ross, Pleasants & Co. for furnishing tobacco to the farmers general; but Mr. Morris had, in the meantime, obtained the contract. I have been fully sensible of the baneful influence on the commerce of France and America which this double monopoly will have. I have struck at its root here, and spared no pains to have the farm itself demolished, but it has been in vain. The persons interested in it are too powerful to be opposed, even by the interest of the whole country. I mention this matter in confidence, as a knowledge of it might injure any future endeavors to attain the same object.

Everything is quiet here, and will certainly remain so another year. Mr. Barclay left Paris a few days ago, and will be absent from France for some time. I shall spare no endeavors to fulfill the several objects with which he was charged in the best manner I can.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the highest respect,
Your Excellency's
most obedient and most humble servant, &c., &c.

CHR. MCCONNICO, MAYOR, TO GOV. HENRY IN REPLY. January 26th

He had laid before the Common Hall the proposition made by the Executive with regard to the prisoners, but he was directed to return his Excellency their thanks for his polite attention; but they did not chuse to take charge of any criminals condemned to servitude, "concerning the expence of keeping and confining them, the risque the Town may run thr'ugh their, or their associates', means more than equal to any benefit that can possibly be derived from any labour such people will do." Petersburg, Virginia

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1786. W. SHORT TO GOV'R HENRY.

Sir:

January 30th Paris. Order for a copying press.

Before I left Virginia I received twenty Guineas, by order of the Executive, to procure for them a copying-press. I immediately paid this money into the Hands of Mr. Harrison, of Richmond, who was to have sent me a Bill to that amount to Paris before my arrival there.

I have awaited that Bill in vain until a few Days ago, when it arrived. It is drawn at sixty Days' Sight, and, consequently, there is yet near two months before it becomes due. Yet as an opportunity at present offers for London and from thence to Virginia, I have determined to advance the sum received, and shall, perhaps, obtain the Favor of the same Person who furnishes this opportunity, to have the press made whilst in London and carry it with him to Richmond. If I find that this will be inconvenient to him, I shall commission Colo. Forrest, merch't of London, to this Purpose, as London is the only Place where these presses are to be procured in the best manner. They are not to be had at all in France, being forbidden to be imported by this Government. Thus your Excellency may count with certainty on receiving this Press soon, and I hope will not suppose that the delay hitherto has been occasioned by any inattention on my Part to the Orders of the Executive.

At the Same Time that I take the Liberty of addressing your Excellency on this Subject, I beg leave also to trouble you a little farther in presenting to your acquaintance the Bearer of the present Letter. It is Mr. Lyons, a son of the Judge of that name. He is a young Gentleman whom I had known at College, and of whom my good Opinion is still increased by the additional acquaintance I have had the Pleasure of forming with him here. He has spent some Time at Edinburg in the study of Physic, and I think it probable will follow that Profession at Richmond. As I am sure your Excellency will be pleased to protect a Genius of so much merit as Mr. Lyons, and as I know I could not render him a more useful or more agreeable Service than in introducing him to your acquaintance, I am happy to have this opportunity of evincing my Esteem for him. I beg your Excellency's Pardon for having given you this Trouble, and beg you to be assured of those Sentiments of Respect and attachment, with which I have the Honor to be

Dr. Lyons.

Yous Excellency's

most obedient and most humble Servant, &c., &c.

Leaves for Virginia via London.

P. S.—Feb'y 6th. Mr. Lyons setts off this morning for London, and the money rec'd on account of the Executive, to-wit: 20 guineas, equal at the Exchange at ———. I red'c'd it to 466 Livres, 13 Sols., is pd. to him, who promises to procure the Press whilst in London and to carry the Press with him to Virginia.

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Montgomery County, ss.: 1786.

The Deposition of Wm. Ward, Gent., taken before me, William Davis, one of the Justices of the Peace for said County, saith that some time in the month of February, 1785, he thinks the 19th Day, there was a number of the inhabitants of Montgomery County collected together at the house of William Boyd, and there was a good deal of conversation about publick measures, the Militia Law, the new Code, or Revisal; and that afterwards this Deponent, with William Davies, Esq'r., and Colo. Arthur Campbell and a few others of the inhabitants, Retired out of the Company a little Distance, and the Conversation turn'd upon a Late Act of Congress laying off new states in the western territory; that the s'd Deponent Remembers particularly that Colo. Campbell observed the meridian line pointed out by Congress; it was uncertain where it would pass through our part of the country, and that it would be best to lye nuteral until we knew more about it, and that it would be best to keep on good terms with the people on both sides, as it was uncertain which side the line would happen. And further this Deponent saith not.

February 7th Montgomery county

Arthur Campbell's opinions, &c

JACOB WRAY TO THE GOVERNOR, IN REPLY,

February 9th Richmond

Reporting his mode of conducting his business as Collector of Customs at Hampton.

He requires of the Ship masters all papers relating to the cargo on board, manifests, bills of lading, &c.; from these a "general manifest is made out, to the truth of which the master is required to make oath. This is compared with the no. of packages, marks, &c., on the Invoices given in at the Office by the merchants, and collections thereon made accordingly," &c., &c.

L. WOOD, J'N'R.,

February 11th Richmond Solicitor's office Relief for sheriff

Enclosing to the Executive, the amount of damages due under Execution against Colo. Chas. May, Sheriff of Buckingham, for failure to collect the Taxes; recommending that he be released from payment thereof, and enclosing the testimony of John Cabell, Hickerson Barksdale, Benj. Morris and Joseph Cabell, S'n'r, that Colo. May had spared no effort to do his duty, but that owing to the "distressed situation of the people through scarcity of money," and the destruction of much of their tobacco by fire in Manchester, it had been impossible to make the collections.

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1786. L. WOOD, J'N'R.,

February 13th Richmond Solicitor's office Price of Tobacco

In reply to the Executive's enquiry as to the average price of Tobacco at every warehouse in the State, &c. He finds it almost impossible to reach a conclusion on this subject, but thinks if "the prices of Tobacco as fixed by the different Grand Juries," in 1780, be averaged, it would give a fairer estimate than any mode he could suggest. He therefore adds below a statement of average price at that Time:

At the June General Court, 1780, Tobacco under the law "for borrowing money" was rated at £60 p'r cwt.; Depreciation was then 65 for 1, which gives a specie price of,	£0. 18. 5½ p'r cwt.
At the Oct'r General Court it was the same; Depreciation 73 for 1,	£0. 16. 5¼
At the Dec. Gen'l Court it was the same; Depreciation 75 for 1,	16.
	£2. 10. 10¾

This shows 50s. 10¾d. to be the price of Tobacco at 3 different periods, which being divided by that number gives 16s. $11\frac{7}{12}$d. p'r cwt., as the average price of Tobacco from the 1st June to the end of the year 1780.

February 13th Alexandria

CHARLES LEE, "NAVAL OFFICER OF SOUTH POTOWMACK," TO THE EXECUTIVE, IN REPLY.

Sir:

Yesterday I had the honor to receive your excellency's letter of the 6th instant, respecting the manner in which I conduct the business of my office, as to the entering of cargoes and ascertaining the duties thereupon, and I take the earliest opportunity of complying with your request.

Upon the arrival of each vessel, within the space of forty-eight hours, the master attends at the office and delivers his register, clearance and other papers of an official nature, together with a manifest of the lading of this vessel, which describes the packages, their numbers, marks and owners, and sometimes the contents of each package, to which he makes oath. At the same time, or in the course of the same day, the several owners or consignees, attend with their invoices, which I examine, and after deducting such articles as are subject to particular duties, and also the charges of packages and expenses of shipping, the duty is computed on the net balance of two and a half per cent. To each person a bill of particulars shewing the duties on every article, is given by me, and such person becomes bound with the master in a bond for the payment thereof, within six months thereafter. It sometimes happens that the owners of

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1786. February 13th

some of the goods live at a distance, and do not attend at the office with the master, or in the course of the same day, and in such cases their goods are suffered to remain on board for the space of ten days, and if no account be rendered within that time, and I have reason to expect one will be rendered within a short time, they are brought on shore and stored, subject to my orders, and when the duties have been paid or secured as before mentioned, permission is given to the owners to receive them. All bonds are made payable on or before six months from the time of entering the vessel, though the duties happen in some instances to be ascertained at a time subsequent. To every master of a vessel I grant a permit under my hand and the seal of my office, which describes what may be landed. Thus it appears that the value of the goods is fixed by invoices and accounts produced by the merchants corresponding with the master's manifest, but they are not sworn to by them.

As to wine, rum and other liquors, the law points out the rule of my conduct; that is to say, hogheads are computed at one hundred gallons, tierces at fifty gallons, and quarter casks or barrels at twenty-five gallons. If the liquors be in bottles, reference is made to the invoices for the contents of the packages; so also with regard to sugar, coffee, hemp, snuff, cordage, salt; reference is had to the respective invoices to know their quantities.

The Master's oath is the rule as to the number of seamen navigating his vessel, and the register of the vessel is the rule as to tonnage, unless there be cause to suspect that the vessel is not truly tonned by the register, in which case she is to be measured after the manner the law directs.

With regard to the illicit practices which the act of the last session of Assembly may have had in view, though I believe they have been very great, yet I cannot think they have been so considerable as some imagined. However, such as they have been, they ought to be prevented in future, and I wish it was in my power to suggest any measures by which they might be effectually suppressed; but I am persuaded that, in the nature of things, it is impossible. Let any one reflect on the geography of this country, the political government of it, and above all on the administration of the laws, and I think he will be of the same opinion. Perhaps by imitating Great Britain with respect to the Custom House department, some measures might be devised that in a small degree might prohibit fraudulent practices, but probably they would be attended with more evil than good. Indeed, to collect duties on imports which are to produce a considerable revenue, being in my opinion incompatible with the principles of every free Government, and particularly with our own, I have ever considered it impracticable, though at the same time I have ever endeavoured to execute the laws relating thereto in the best manner I could. In Great Britain the custom house system is one of their greatest grievances—a source not only of private oppression, but of public ruin and peculation.

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1786. February 13th

I do not clearly understand what were the duties intended to be performed by the searchers, which the act has directed to be appointed. In England, from whence the name seems to have been borrowed, their office is to examine what goods are shipped for exportation, on which drawbacks or debentures are allowed, and to grant certificates in order that these benefits may be obtained. Thus the interest of the merchant leads him to shew to the Searcher all such goods as may be entitled to debenture; and the office there may be of some use.

But in this country debentures or drawbacks are not allowed in any case (a thing much complained of), and therefore in this point of view I do not know of any duties that are to be exercised with the office. Before the revolution there were searchers on each river, and they were in the nature of sinecures. But I conceive it was the intention of the legislature that those officers should act on board the State boats, in which situation they might detect vessels trading against law by examining their papers, and if this be the meaning of the law it will be requisite to furnish them with the several naval office seals, though I cannot but say it appears to me their services will be of little worth. The State boats may be of use in stopping vessels which, having offended, may attempt to fly the Commonwealth in order to avoid the penalties which the law would inflict.

With regard to the defects in our present laws, I have to observe that the importers, owners, or consignees of goods, should be severally required to render an account on oath of what belongs to them; for the masters of vessels do not, nor can they lawfully, in many instances, know the contents of the packages; and the law is against reason in requiring them to give an account on oath of what never comes to their knowledge, and therefore the oath administered by me goes only to the packages, their marks, owners, &c. This defect has often been mentioned by me to members of the legislature, and I conceive it has been most productive of the illicit practices complained of. The business of informing of breaches of penal laws, and of suing for forfeitures, is not considered in the public opinion as reputable, and, therefore, no person will turn informer, and of consequence no opportunity offers of executing the law for an example to others; but this is not to be viewed as a defect in the laws so much as in the opinions of the people.

If a vessel offends, so that she may be forfeited, the prosecution is to be in the Court of Admiralty, where it will be conducted with very many inconveniences as to the process, trial and sentence. This alone might effectually stop prosecutions, and as I have never been satisfied with the propriety of confining them to the Admiralty jurisdiction, I am led to think this a defect in our laws. Why might not the County Courts, within which the vessel lies at the time of the offence, have jurisdiction in such cases?

Since I received your letter I have not had time to consider the subject so maturely as it deserves and as I intend, in order that I may give all

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the satisfaction to your enquiries that I can, I have taken the liberty freely of expressing such ideas as have occurred to me as I conceive you intended I should do so. 1786. February 13th

I have the honor to be your excellency's
most obed. and most h'ble ser't, &c., &c.

J. PARKER TO THE EXECUTIVE IN REPLY.

Sir: February 14th

Being honored with yours of the 6th Instant, which I received only to-day from the Post office, will apologize for its not being sooner answered. Norfolk Naval office

I have heard, Sir, of the Act of the last Session of Assembly for the better Securing the revenue, &c., but have not yet seen it, nor am I acquainted with the contents of it. My opinion ever has been that abuses have been committed in the Trade, and that it has been much in the power of the officers to injure the public revenues, either by false reports to the Executive or the Auditors, to the first of which each quarter they are bound to convey an exact journal of their entries and clearancies, and to the latter they are to give a true statement of each vessell and cargoe, as well as to attest it on Oath. This has ever been done by me a short space after the quarter expired, as it is impossible that the papers can be made up to a day, or the Collections finished in a Country where the debtors are so much dispersed. The law obliges every master of a vessel to report his Cargoe in forty-eight hours after arrival, and he may continue thus reporting for Ten days if he does not break bulk, but if he enters his vessell he is to produce a manifest of his Cargoe on Oath, describing each package by mark, and if he has the Invoices of the whole correspondent with the marks, and satisfactory to the Officer, the duty is specifyed and bond with security taken, payable in six months; but if the master cannot produce the original Invoices, or give satisfaction of the Value to the Officer, he takes what the law calls a *Bond in Gross to the following effect*, (taking care that the penalty is enough):

WHEREAS, the above bound A. B. hath Imported from ————, in the Ship ————, certain dutiable goods p'r Manifest of the Cargoe rendered:– Now if the Said ———— shall produce the original Invoice or Invoices of the Whole of the said Cargoe, or three Copies thereof on Oath, and pay the duties thereon, according to Law, within six months from the date hereof, then the above obligation to be void, or else, &c., &c.

But should the master of any vessell neglect to comply with the law by not conforming in Ten days, the naval officer then has power to go on board such vessell and bring on shore any articles liable to a duty, and sell the same after giving Two weeks' notice in the Gazette of such sale.

With respect to outward entries, copies of them are allso laid before the Executive and a statement to the Auditors of the Hospital Money and the

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1786. February 14th. Tonage which is generally paid at clearance, and as there are no duties on our exports, it is only necessary that the manifests of Tobacco should be retained in office as a check to the Inspectors of Tobacco, who receive that duty at their respective warehouses.

Hitherto it has been my opinion that a vessell making a false entry only subjected her master to a penalty of £200, which, if generally known, would have produced many false entries, as the duties on some ships have amounted to treble that sum, for which reason I have ever been cautious of speaking on that subject in publick, and have advised Commodore Barron to be so, as well as myself; but, if your Excellency remembers, in the Summer session of 1784 I suggested this matter to you and some of the leading members in the Assembly, with other remarks on the business, expecting the matter would have been generally taken up. The late act, I am told, has subjected the vessell and cargoe to seizure and condemnation. If so, I think a boat employed for each River and a Barge at this place will be sufficient to check any smuggling that may be generally attempted, and will in the end pay the expences of the Guard Boats and Barge, as I presume one-half will go to the Commonwealth, which may be applyed to the payment of the crews. I cannot believe that many frauds have been committed in Elizabeth River. The British ships all produce their Cockets, from which their manifests are abstracted, and as there is not an article exported from Britain but either receives a reward or pays a duty on exportation, the officer, if tolerably acquainted with goods, may be very near the value of the Cargoe.

The exports of our own vessels are so well known that little are to be apprehended from them, and if any injury has been done the revenue, it has been by vessells runing up the different Rivers without entering at all; and while the office remained above newport news they had every favourable opportunity of evading an entry; as if they were caught above there excuse was they meaned to enter at Williamsburg. The Port Bill will take place in June, and I conceive then that evey Foreign vessell for Elizabeth, Nancemond or James River must enter here. If so, I am of opinion that one good, armed Pilot Boat and barge, under the direction of the officer (would effect as far as it is possible under the present law) any capital neglect of entreis. To appoint searchers for such a number of vessells would cost more than the revenues would nett, as the dispersed situation of our commerce would employ as many men as there are vessels employed in the Trade, and men of their characters in general, if we are to attend to the examples of other Countries, will serve them who pay them most.

If, Sir, we had only one port of delivery and publick warehouses, the duties, then, might be well secured by obliging each vessell at Entry to pay down the money, or deposit as much goods as would pay the duties, which, if not redeemed in a few months, should be sold to the highest bidder. Then, Sir, a few searches might be necessary to see to the marks and numbers of each package and compare his accounts with the

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books of office once a week or oftener. It is a general report that great frauds are practiced on and committed in the Customs. The report is now sanctfyed by law, from the Title of the one your Excellency has done me the honor to send. It never has been my opinion that the abuses have been as great as reported, but must suppose there are some; therefore agree with the multitude, as they must with me, "that it is easier to find fault than to remedy." If any hints of mine can check the evil I shall be happy, as I love my Country as I do myself, and mean to be in Richmond in a few days, when I will, if required, have the honor to explain everything I know with respect to the Trade and customs. With this I do myself the honor of enclosing the Journal of entries and clearances for the last quarter, which, in number, has exceeded any heretofore. These would have been sent before, but when your Express brought the laws laying additional Tonnage on British vessells, I was at Isle of Wyght Court. My dutifull respects and compliments await your honorable Board, and do myself pleasure in subscribing

Your faithfull and obedient servant, &c., &c.

1786. February 14th

GENERAL ACCOUNT CURRENT

February 16th

Of the United States with the Virginia line. Signed by Andrew Dunscomb. Much mutilated.

THE DEPOSITION OF ROBERT PRESTON,

February 23d

of lawful age, and taken in behalf of the Commonwealth Virginia, respecting sundry charges exhibited against Arthur Campbell, deposeth and sayeth that the following is a true copy, in part, of a letter from Arthur Campbell to this deponent, and offered in support of the s'd charges which followeth: I supose you have heard of the plan on foot in the County to take the sense of the People on the present situation of affairs. As far as my views now extends, it is mearly to state grievances and recommend what may be thought best to preserve the inhabitants from ruin; indeed, I want to rouse them to examine into their situation and to prepare to discharge all just claims against them. As to the present situation of Taxation, I do do not like it, nor can it last long. Money must be obtained by another mode; that is, tax luxuries, vices, and superfluities. We pay no small sum this year to —— treasury, as the duty and imports on foreign articles, you know, is always paid by the consumers, and that out here at a very advanced price. Our salt has cost us at least a Dollar p'r Bushell, on account of the Duty; this, in part, may answer an objection that we pay nothing. I think we pay a great deal, as all our money, as fast as we can get it, goes to the Eastward. It is the business of Legislatures to find out means to get the proportion necessary to supply the

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1786. February 23d

Public treasury. If you like the mode proposed, I shall entreat you will futther the meeting of the People early the Tuesday morning at the next Court, at the ebbing spring meeting-house, intended sinking Spring. One thing, I think, ought at least to be adopted: either a recommendation for the Court not to do business, or that the Sheriff desist from his purpose of collecting, as ruin, mobs, and anarchy must be the consequence if something is not done to save the People. Dated 7th Sept., 1785.

This Deponent further sayeth that s'd Campbell, not being on the Bench, endeavoured by many arguments to prevent the field Offices from swearing into their Commissions, as he thought the Militia law oppressive, and insisted that the Court should not permit them to be sworn into their Commissions at that time, as the said law was an infringement of the Constitution of Virginia.

Sworn to before us the 23d Feb'y, 1786, as witness our hands and Seals·

JOHN KINKEAD. [Seal.]
ALEX'R MONTGOMERY. [Seal.]

February. PETITION OF GEDDES WINSTON, SHERIFF OF HANOVER COUNTY,

For the year 1783, praying for relief from "Damages and Interest" imposed on him for failure to account for the Taxes of that year. He represents to the Governor and Council that the scarcity of money had been the cause of his derilection. The most vigorous efforts had been made by himself and deputies; seizures of property had been made, and days appointed for the sale of the same, but "nobody would purchase." "That many of the most punctual, formerly, were now deficient for want of money." Since that time, however, he had succeeded in making up the deficiency, and prays the damages and costs be remitted to him, &c.

February 23d

THE DEPOSITION OF SAMUEL MEEK,

Of lawfull age, taken in behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, respecting sundry charges exhibited against Arthur Campbell:

Deposition in case of Arthur Campbell

Sayeth, That Arthur Campbell left the bench on a day the Court was sitting, at the time the Commissions for the Field officers was presented to the Court, and told the Court That the Governor and Council had no rite to Issue them Commissions at that time, And that he endeavored to persuade the Court to postpone Swaring in the officers to the next Court. Sworn to before us.

JOHN KINKEAD [Seal].
ALEX'R MONTGOMERY [Seal].

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THE DEPOSITION OF WM. CAULEY, 1786.

Of Lawfull age, taken in behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, respecting certain charges against Arthur Campbell: February 23d

Sayeth as followeth: Being asked if he knew of Arthur Campbell addressing people chargeable with publick taxes to refuse Payment thereof, He answered, not to his knowledge. * * * * Arthur Campbell

* * * * * * * * *

DEPOSITION OF JOHN JAMESON February 23d

On the same subject, proving the petition to Congress to have been drawn by Arthur Campbell looking to the dismemberment of the State.

THE DEPOSITION OF JOSEPH COLE, February 23d

Of lawfull age, taken in behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, respecting sundry charges exhibited against Arthur Campbell:

Sayeth, that some time in Jan'y, or Feb'y, 1785, he was in conversation with Col. Arthur Campbell and Joseph Snodgrass. There was mention made of the sheriff's swearing in to Collect the taxes, when Col. Campbell said they were prity fellows to send here for taxes; but he would call a Committee and prevent the paying of taxes till such times as they would pay what they were endue us, or endue to the County, or words to that import. Arthur Campbell

This Deponent further sayeth, that when the Governor's proclamation was produced to the Court of Washington, Colo. Campbell objected against it, and said the Court had no right to pay any regard to it, and that the Governor had no right to issue such a proclamation.

Sworn to before us the 23d day of Feb'y, 1786, as Witness our hands and Seals.

JOHN KINKEAD, [Seal.]
ALEX'R MONTGOMERY, [Seal.]

RECORD OF THE TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF JOHN PRICE POSEY, March 3d

Of New Kent Co., for misdemeanor, in defrauding Bartholomew Dandridge, &c., with certificate of Richard Evins, acknowledging his having destroyed "in a passion" the Arbitration Bond given by said Posey to Dandridge, &c. Eastern Shore, Northampton county

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1786. DEPOSITION OF BENJAMIN JOHN,

March 6th Taken by order of the Executive, Dec. 13, 1785:

Washington county That he never heard Colo. Arthur Campbell advise any person against paying the public Tax; and

DEPOSITION OF FRANCIS BEATIE.

That he never heard Col. Arthur Campbell advise any person against paying the publick Tax, but that it was not best to make return of the Taxable property—them words, or words to that import,

Sworn to before me.

ROBERT CAMPBELL.

ALSO, DEPOSITION OF REV. THOMAS WOOLSEY,

That he never heard Colo. Arthur Campbell advise any person to refuse payment of the public tax; but that sometime in the Summer of 1785 he heard s'd Campbell advise in public for the people to give in their Returns for public Tax—that he heard said Campbell say he thought it would be best to have a new State, if it could be obtained in the West Side of the Alligany mountains, by petitioning the Assembly of Virginia and by applying to Congress, and that in a legal manner.

March 8th ED. RANDOLPH, ATT'Y-GEN'L, TO THE GOVERNOR IN REPLY.

Sir:

Richmond Your Excellency has called upon me to define the duty of searchers. As a lawyer I cannot, because the rules of construction which prevail in

Searchers our profession throw no light on the term.

This word is unknown at the common law. It is also a stranger to every british Statute, until the 12 Car. 2, as far as I can discover. It is an alien too to our own laws, except in the instances of searching for certain improper tobacco and papists' arms, and in the Act now before

Declines an opinion me. As governed by legal principles, I therefore cannot explain the duty of seachers. I am the more reluctant to hazard any opinion concerning the intention of the legislature, because the execution of the office, as it was known under the regal government, was full of violence, and would be now of great danger to the fortune of the officer. How far it may be expedient on the one hand, or candid on the other, to appoint seachers, leaving them to divine their own powers, at their own peril, I shall not presume to suggest advice.

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The inclosed resolution will not, I conceive, justify the officers of the State boats in breaking up a cargo by way of search, unless they should meet with contraband property. 1786.

I have the honor, Sir, to be, with great respect,

Y'r Excellency's mo. ob. Serv., &c., &c.

ELLIOTT STURMAN TO THE GOVERNOR IN REPLY, March 9th

Giving report as to how he conducted the business of his office as Collector of Customs. He adopts the same plan followed other officers, already recorded. The Act of Assembly appointing Searchers "would be productive of the best consequences, if the Searchers are strict in their duty, and the men of known Integrity." Expresses great concern that his former communication had not been received, in as much as it had the appearance of "negligence and disrespect;" but "as the post is a Negro," he had not "fowarded a copy for certainty." Urbanna

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JOHN F. MERCER TO GOV. HENRY. March 9th

Dear Sir:

A copy of the Virginia Act, confirming the compact between that State and Maryland, has not yet come to hand here. It had passed and was engrossed before I left Richmond. The Resolutions also respecting a mutual Convention had passed the House of Delegates, and are binding now, unless the Senate have rejected them. I feel myself under delicate circumstances respecting this matter, as the Legislature of this State hurried their acts thro' to put them in my charge. I therefore beg leave to request your Excellency's attention to them, and that you would transmit them both, if passed, and if not, inform me of the cause of their failure with our Legislature. Annapolis

With very sincere respect, I am

Y'r Excell'y mo. ob. ser't, &c., &c.

DEPOSITION OF ANDREW COWAN, March 10th

Sworn to before David Ward, magistrate of s'd County:

That at the March Court in 1785, in Mrs. Smith's Tavern, at Abingdon, your deponent heard some persons ask Colo. Arthur Campbell who we would send Delegates for the present year. Colo. Arthur Campbell (after some other Discourse) told the persons who asked the question that it was best to send none. Also of Washington county Depositions

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1786.

JAMES KINCANNON.

March 10th State of Franklin

Your deponent, some time in the Spring of 1785, being in company with Andrew Kincanon at Major Dysart's house, Colo. Arthur Campbell, John Campbell, Mr. Charles Cummins, Robt. Craig and Thomas Caldwell being also at the same place, and after some Discourse between Colo. Campbell and Andrew Kincanon about the State of Franklin, said Kincanon asked s'd Campbell if No. Carolina would send men to Dispossess the Franklin people for their Proceedings, if he would assert them (the s'd people of Franklin). He, the s'd Campbell, answered, by all means we ought all to do it. And your deponent saith further saith not. Also of

WM. CRABTREE.

That some time in the year 1784, being in Company with Arthur Campbell, and discussing about the sheriffs in Montgomery selling Horses taken by Execution at a law value, Arthur Campbell, addressing himself to the deponent, said: don't you let or suffer any Sheriffs to take or sell any of your Property on any account, but Rather apply to your musquets for Redress, and I will Protect you. Also

DEPOSITION OF ARTHUR BOWEN.

Sworn, &c., &c. That on the 12th Day of Feb'y, 1785, at the house of Wm. Colley, in Washington County, your deponent attended, with his company of militia, by order of Colo. Campbell, where he spake to a considerable number of inhabitants in a public manner, and told them he had called them togather to make known to them of a great sum of Money paid by the people of this County to the government of Virginia, which he s'd amounted to about Two Million of money over and above our proportion due to government. Colo. Campbell said he was alarm'd to hear that Taxes were to be demanded of the people of this county, and it was certainly so, as the sheriff had given security for the collection. Your deponent remembers that Gen'l Russell told the people that Colo. Campbell's information was rong, and designed to mislead them and set them against government. Gen'l Russell further said they ought to pay the half Tax now called for, and he thought the arears would be forgiven. Col. Campbell then said, the gentleman Preaches up passive obedience and non-resistance. Gen'l Russell then told the people that the Sheriff would take Beef Cattle at reasonable prices, to be valued by persons in each neighborhood. Some of the company said they would take up arms before they would pay the Tax. Colo. Campbell said he lik'd such men who would take up arms to oppose so unjust a Tax. Then Colo. Campbell and his party draw'd themselves of from the house and cryed husza for Liberty. At July Court, 1785, Arthur Campbell came of the bench and endeavour'd to hinder the qualifycations of the field officers then attending, and sed they ought not to pay any regard to that proclamation, for, having

Colonel Campbell urges resistance to taxation, &c

Huzzas for liberty

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suspended the law, they had no right to inforce it that time. Colo. Campbell then observed to the Court that the power of inforcing the law, or not, was in them, and not in the Executive. And further your deponent sayth not. Also the 1786. March 10th

DEPOSITION OF WILLIAM RUSSELL,

Substantiating the above, but deposing further that Colo. Campbell, at the same time and place, proposed that all present "in favour of his measures should chuse a committee, and with these he retired some distance from Colley's yard." He had attended another meeting of the people at Major James Dysart's, on the 14th same month, when the same statements had been made by Colo. Campbell, and the like replies made by himself in answer to Colo. Campbell. Again on the 15th inst., being February Court day, people from all parts being present, Colo. Campbell had addressed a committee, repeating the same statements and complaints in regard to the collection of Taxes, condemning the laws generally, especially the militia law, and censuring "the assembly for breaking up disorderly, thereby neglecting and leaving unfinished the bill for recovery of British debts." He, Russell, then took occasion to reply to Campbell's erronious statements as mere inferences, and reminded him that his course tended to inflame the good people of this county against government; that our refusal to pay taxes led to a rebellion, in which predicament we must subjugate Virginia and the United States; for, if necessary, the United States must assist Virginia to bring us to obedience."

Committee formed

Consequences of Campbell's course

Campbell then told the people "they need not be alarmed, that we could obtain, at any time, sufficient assistance." Your deponent then withdrew from Colonel Campbell and his committee.

He continues: "At July Court, in '85, your deponent attended, with the Governor's proclamation and other official papers from the Executive, to enforce the militia law. After the proclamation was read by the sheriff, at the courthouse dore, your deponent, with the field officers, waited on the Court, Colo. Campbell on the bench and judge of the Court, and told Col. Arthur Campbell that your deponent, with several others, attended to qualify to field officers' commissions. Colonel Campbell then required authority for it. Your deponent handed Col. Campbell the proclamation, and also told him your deponent had the official papers.

Colonel Campbell resists the enforcement of the militia law

Colonel Campbell refused that the officers should qualify—said he wood not tamely submit to it so, and left the bench, and on the flore addressed the Court. He said the militia law was tyranical and oppressive, and recommended to all present to pay no regard to it. He said the Governor and Council had exceeded their powers—that the Executive having once suspended the law 'till the January following, had not power to enforce it at that time. Colonel Arthur Campbell then told the Court that the power of enforcing the law or not was in the Court, and not in the Executive—that the Governor's proclamation was no law. Your deponent then observed that it contained sufficient power to enforce the militia law.

Defys the Executive power

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1786. CERTIFICATE OF ANDR. COWAN AND DAVID WARD, UNDER THEIR HAND AND SEAL.

March 10th That the within Letter was produc'd to them as "Testimony Relative to charges Exhibited against Col. Campbell (by Col. Edmiston), and received by Mr. John Edmiston agreeable to the Date:

GOODWOOD, Aug. 26th, 1785.

Dear Sir:

After a long conversation with my old friend, your brother, yesterday, I am not without hopes that we will be reconciled and good friends again. What I most wonder at is, that a man of his understanding and experience should persist in an opinion that is reprobated by Congress, by many of the most intelligent and disinterested men in Virginia; by Kentucky almost unanimously—I mean that of not having the Western Country separated from Virginia. But somehow, unfortunately for him, he has lately got his information through a false medium—I mean Colo. Russell and Jemmy Thompson; none of whom, you know, is famed for veracity, and they, Jesuitical enough, observing his temper, has grossly imposed upon him. This is certain, that to pretend to be a good politician requires a great deal of reading and observation, and to be fited for to be a good Citizen of a free Country, one must have a good deal of knowledge and a proper stock of virtuous dispositions—in short, he ought to let his passions and interests always give way to the general good. Now if our late tax laws, our militia law, indeed almost every law of late made in Virginia don't prove that instead of promoting our freedom and prosperity they have direct opposite tendency, then I confess I am no judge—that then a defect must be somewhere, either in the government or the administration of it. I am afraid, on a critical Examination, great defects would be found in both. Congress, that Body who hitherto has so wisely acted as guardian for the whole, seeing the defects, proposed the scheme of limiting each State to a limited extent, so that the component parts of the Empire might be nearer on a footing of equality, and consequently perpetuate good will and reciprocal benefits. Now, behold! the opposite scheme of politics would deprive us of all these advantages and introduce an aristocracy, and all the hideous train of evils that never fails to accompany that species of government.

It is extremely unfortunate that many well-meaning and valuable men in America, who remained unshaken during the severest trials, at the end of the war, lost sight of the object they were contending for, or perhaps they had no object in view at all; and so of course now, for them, all might be lost or run into wild disorder.

On reflection, my good friend, you will perceive that because we were provoked and justly angry with England, that was not the object we fought for. Anger and hatred ceases when the cause that excited it is removed. But our aim was to be able to leave a noble bequest to our sons,

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a republican or free government. These are the laws, the statutes and commandments, that the God of heaven by wonderful means have brought within our reach, and we must be doubly accursed if we cast them behind our backs. Our sons will then have occasion wofully to bewail the ignorance, prejudice and faint-heartedness of their fathers, without ever having it in their power to retrieve what their fathers have lost. To give you a better idea of my reasoning, I will endeavour to explain in a few words the nature of three kinds of government: 1786. March 10th

1. Monarchy is the rule of one Man, and its principle is to aggrandize and bestow benefits on that individual alone.

2. Aristocracy is the government of a few, no matter whether they assume the title of my Lord, General, or what not. If they usurp all power to themselves the evil is the same. Now, this kind of government has for its object the aggrandizement of the few, no matter whether vicious or not, and the money must sink in time to an abject, depraved state.

3. Democracy or republican government is a government of the People; their happiness is its object, and its spirit is equality and virtue. In small societies or States in this kind of government, the whole body of the people may assemble, legislate, and their mind thus expressed is sufficient from a virtuous principle for every man to be a fulfiler or executor of the law. But in large communities men must betake themselves to representation, and entrust their concerns to a certain number freely elected.

This last kind of government is the kind America has adopted. Your own reflections will point out how much it is preferable to any of the others, and how much all is bound by the most sacred ties to transmit it pure to after generations.

I have thus been particular that you might, at your leisure hours, read and ponder these matters well. It falls but to the lot of few to have learning and capacity to do public business right; but all may, with some diligence and honesty, be capable of judging whether it is done right or not. That is, to compare whether the acts are conformable to fundamental principles, which are always expressed in the Constitutions. Added to what I say, do try to get the Constitutions of all the States as printed in Philadelphia, for in Virginia the printers is sometimes made instrumental to misprint in order to cheat the people of constitutional right. Also, get Dr. Price's observations on civil liberty, together with all the writings of Mr. Paine. There will be a sufficient library for a farmer, and they will cost but a trifle. It is a great thing for every freeman to learn justly to judge aright for himself.

I am, dear Sir, with lasting regard,
Your cordial friend and very humble servant,

ARTHUR CAMPBELL.

To Mr. JOHN EDMUNDSON, S'N'R.

Col. Campbell, after finding the court disposed to attend to the orders of the Executive, then urged that the court might refuse to admit the

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1786. March 10th officers quallifying till the August Court. Your deponent then observ'd the exposed situation of our frontier, which Col. Campbell said was not much to be noticed, or words to that amount. Your deponent further observes Colo. Campbell has constantly refused to attend the board, as directed under the militia law of eighty-four. And further your deponent saith not.

March 12th

J. PARKER TO GOV HENRY.

Norfolk Naval office He is informed "by respectable merchants of this Borough" that several vessels from Baltimore had gone to Petersburg and Richmond with "Rum and other foreign goods," not entered at that place. "As they draw back a duty on exportation from Maryland, if they are allowed to run the Goods in here without paying the duties, a continuation of the imposition will tend to the annihilation of the Trade of this Town." * * * * "In further answer I beg leave to suggest the propriety of having a Searcher at Petersburg and another at Richmond, who should board all vessells arriving there, and seize them if without permits agreeable to Law, &c."

March 13th

AUSTIN BROCKENBROUGH TO GOV. HENRY.

Sir:

Richmond The Commissioners under the act of parliament for adjusting the claims of the American sufferers, requested me to assist them in procuring authentic documents from this State, of the losses by confiscation, &c., that they may be the better enabled to do ample Justice to the real sufferers on the one hand, and detect all fraudulent claims on the other. In consequence of the above requisition, I have several times applied to the Auditor, who always made an objection to the furnishing me with a list of confiscations untill he should be directed by the Executive to do so.

If it should appear to your Excellency that there is no impropriety in my obtaining such a copy, I humbly beg that your Excellency may permit the Auditor to have one made out as soon as it can be done without impeding the more important business of his office.

I am, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most h'bl. Servant, &c., &c.

March 14th

DEPOSITION OF THOS. BERRY VS. ARTHUR CAMPBELL,

Sworn to before Alex'r Montgomery, in behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, viz:

Arthur Campbell This Deponent deposeth and sayeth, That at a Committee at sinking spring meeting-house, He heard Authur Campbell say that the people had paid Their taxes already, and to enforce his argument he produced a paper with statements of money paid into the treasury, And said

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before he would submit to the laws for enforcing of Taxes, he would rather take up his musket and fight Till he lost the last drop of his blood, in the manner these ware then coming on, and that it appeared more likely that we were to become slaves than freemen. And farther saith not. 1786. March 14th

THE DEPOSITION OF JAMES MONTGOMERY, March 14th

In behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia *vs.* Arthur Campbell, sworn to before Alex'r Montgomery and Alex'r Barrett:

Sayeth, that on Tuesday, the 15th February, 1785, being Washington Court day, this deponent was informed there was a Committee to meet at the Sinking Spring meeting house by the appointment of Arthur Campbell, and going to s'd meeting house found a Committee sitting, and the Rev. Charles Cummings, Chairman (or at least was address'd as such). Colo. Campbell, on the floor reading a paper, call'd an Address to the people, containing a number of statements of money paid the Treasury from this County, which he said were taxes, or opperrated as such (a copy of which address is, or was, in the possession of the Executive). He alsoe said the Tax law was partial, and in his opinion aught not to be complied with untill they were made sensible how their money was applyed, and in his opinion they never could live happy under the State of Virginia, as there was such a difference betwixt the Eastern and Western parts of this State, and our representation unequal—that they need never expect the laws to opperate Equally upon them, and much more to the same Effect—then took a Seat. Gen'l Russell, then addressing himself to the People, told them that Colo. Campbell's Statement of Accounts was eronious, and was calculated only to enrage and enflame them against Government—that his main object was to Effect a new State, and that they might as well undertake to subjugate the State of Virginia as to refuse the payment of Taxes; for the consiquence would be, that Virginia would subjugate them, and, in case they were not able, the power of the United States would be called on, and cautioned them to take care how they conducted themselves in attempting to rebell against the laws of the State, and adding much more to the same purpose withdrew. Col. Campbell got up and address'd the Chairman and Committee, telling them he hoped they would not be Allarmed at the Terror the Military Gen'l had thrown out, for he could assure them there was no danger from that quarter. They would get assistance enough, especially from the Northern States, for they were groaning under their burthens, and wished for some way to extricate themselves, and that the Gent's doctrine attended only to passive Obedience and non-resistance, which was the end to all liberty of freemen—a State he hoped never to see himself in—that he could never think to live happy under such a Goverment, nor die in peace to leave his children under such Government; for his part, he had rather fight till he lost the last drop of his blood.

Session of the committee addressed by Colonel Campbell

General Russell replies

Campbell's reply to Russell's warning

Complaint against the government of Virginia

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1786. March 14th

This deponent farther sayeth, that at March Court, 1785, going into Smith's tavern, found Colo. Campbell standing with a number of People round him, and he was speaking very disrespectfull of the fall Assembly 1784, saying that they had made the laws partial, and that he made no doubt but they intended to brake the Constitution, as they had made large strides upon it the last session. And he made no doubt but the Government would be chainged into Monarchy or Aristocracy in a short time, and in his opinion they ought to send no members to Assembly this year.

The deponent then asked him what he meant by such propositions, or what did he think the Assembly of Virginia would think of us if we sent no members; would it not be plainly saying that we did not wish to be any longer a member of that Community? Col. Campbell said that was plainly what he did mean.

Resistance to the militia law

This deponent further sayeth, that at July Court, 1785, after the Governor's proclamation was read at the Court house door, Gen'l Russell inform'd the Court that himself with several others had field officers' commissions and was ready to qualify. Colo. Campbell, being on the Bench and Judge of the Court, ask'd to see the Commissions and proclamation, which he did, and then said he could not admit them, as he looked upon the Governor's proclamation Illegal, as he had suspended the opperration of the militia law till Jan'y, 1786, upon the western waters, he had not a right to take of that suspension. Leaving the bench, came to the floor and endeavoured to persuade the Court that they need not pay any regard to the Governor's Proclamation, for the enforcing of laws was in them and not in the Executive. Gen'l Russell then told the Court that if they chose to pay more regard to Col. Campbell than to the Governor and Council, he wish'd to know it, for if they did not permit them to qualify he would be under the necessity to make Report. Col. Campbell ask'd what was the Governor and Council? they were no more than an individual; he call'd them so for the were no more than an individual of the State. And further saith not.

March 14th

Deposition of Alex'r Barrett,

In behalf of the Commonwealth of Va., respecting charges against Arthur Campbell. Sworn to before Alex. Montgomery:

This deponent deposeth and sayeth, That at the Sinking Creek Meeting-house, in 1785, At a time there was a Committee siting, He heard Arthur Campbell Discourage the people from paying of Taxes, by pointing out to them that they had no rite to pay Till the money was accounted for that the people had paid respecting their lands; for the State was more indebted to the County than the County was to the State, and faulted the acts of Assembly, that had not yet come to hand, and termed them partial, by what he understood of them.

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DEPOSITION OF ANDREW KINCANNON, March 14th

In behalf of the Commonwealth, &c., against Arthur Campbell. Sworn to before Alex'r Montgomery:

This deponent deposeth and sayeth, That some time in March or Ap'l, 1785, he heard Arthur Campbell say that it was necessary that the people on the western waters should be separated from the State of Virginia, and that it would be most convenient for them to Join the State of Franklin; That it would come under the latitude of the bounds as described by Congress, and that the sooner the better, or we need not expect to share equal advantages with them. And this deponent further sayeth, That Conversing with Arthur Campbell about the affairs of the State of Franklin, s'd Campbell allowed the went on Rashly, and that he did not approve of their scheme of doing business before the had some information from Congress. The deponent further sayeth, that conversing with the said Campbell at another time, he asked him in case the State of North Carolina would send a force against the state of Franklin, to bring them to subjection to their former Government, if he would be willing to aid the people of Franklin State, s'd Campbell answered that we ought, by all means, if we expected to share with them in the advantages of their Government. And further sayeth not.

SAMP. MATHEWS IN A LETTER TO MR. ARCH'D BLAIR, March 15th

Remarks "I have have also Inclos'd a Card from the Sons of St. Patrick." Richmond

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CAPT. JOHN PEYTON TO GOV'R HENRY. March 18th

Sir:

Agreeable to your Excellency's orders of ye 4th Inst., I have examined into the State of the Public Ordnance at the different places where they are lodged, and find them conditioned as specified in the Inclosed returns. I have also made every inquiry in my power (not being able to Judge myself) to ascertain the expence of moving them to the places allotted, and putting them on Carriages. I am informed that it cannot be done for a Less sum than as stated at the bottom of the return. Point of Fork

I am, Sir,
Y'r mo. ob. Serv't.

According to the Return referred to, there were at Point of Fork—Brass pieces, 1 16-inch mortar, 3 24-pounders, and 2 16-pounders.

At Richmond—Brass, 1 16-inch mortar, 2 24-pounders; Iron, good, 3 18-pounders, 4 3-pounders, 3 swivels; damaged, 6 12-pounders, 6 9-pounders, 4 6-pounders.

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1786. March 18th

At Westham—Iron, good, 3 18-pounders; damaged, 6 9-pounders, 6 6-pounders.

At Chickahominy Ship-Yard—Iron, good, 2 spiked 18-pounders.

At Diascand Bridge—Iron, good, 3 18-pounders and 5 swivels; damaged, 6 6-pounders and 5 4-pounders.

At *Cumberland Town, in the River—Brass, 1 18-pounder.

In Nansemond County, Maj. Godwin's Landing—Iron, good, 12 18-pounders, 4 12-pounders.

At Meade's Mill, 2 miles above Suffolk—Iron, good, 3 18-pounders, 2 12-pounders, spiked.

At Scott's Mill, on the road eight miles above Godwin's Land'g—Iron, good, 1 18-pounder.

Hood's—Iron, good, 1 18-pounder, spiked.

At Hanover C't House—Brass, 1 18-pounder, sawed, unfit for service.

At †Taylor's Ferry—Brass, 5 18-pounders; Iron, good, 3 12-pounders, spiked.

One mile of Richmond, on the road to Westham and H. C. House—Iron, good, 3 18-pounders.

At New Castle—Iron, good, 1 18-pounder.

Total number of Brass guns of all calibres, &c., 16; of Iron guns, of all calibres, &c., 96; grand total of all kinds, 112 pieces.

Estimated expence of moving the Ordnance and fixing them on Carriages:

To moving 22 Eighteen and twelve-pounders from Nansemond to Norfolk	£	30. 0. 0.
To moving 21 pieces cannon and 5 swivels from Chickahominy to Hood's		25. 0. 0.
To moving 10 pieces cannon from Hanover C't House and Taylor's Ferry to N. Castle		20. 0. 0.

*This gun was subsequently taken up out of the River by the Captain of a Northern vessel and carried off. The writer gave some account of this in an article in the *So. Lit. Messenger* in 1857.

† These were subsequently brought to Richmond and placed near the Capitol Square, and as soon as the State Armory was finished, about 1801, they were placed upon an esplanade, south of the parade ground, within the enclosure of the Armory buildings, where they remained until the year 1863, when several of them were melted up by the Confederate Government and recast into Napoleon guns for the use of the Letcher Battery. Two of them have survived the hazards of the war and time, and now adorn the grounds of the Military Institute at Lexington, Virginia. For further particulars of those guns see Tarleton's Campaigns in Virginia, and an article in the *So. Literary Messenger* for 1856 by B. B. Minor, Esq.; and another in the same Periodical for 1857 by the writer of this.

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To moving 3 pieces in the neighborhood of Richmond to Richmond..... To moving 3 pieces from Westham to Richmond.....	These may be moved by ye Public Wagons in my possession.	£ 75. 0. 0.	1786. March 18th
To mounting 2 16-inch mortars.....	£ 24. 0. 0.		
To mounting 39 18-pounders and 9 12-pounders on Fort carriages, with cast wheels.....	£ 576. 0. 0.		
To mounting 11 Field pieces on Traveling carriages.....	£ 275. 0. 0.		
		£ 875. 0. 0.	
Total.....		£ 950. 0. 0.	

N. B.—There is a considerable quantity of Ball and shells at Hanover Town, a considerable quantity of ball at the old Ship-yard in Chickahominy, and of both at the "old Foundery near Westham."

THE DEPOSITION OF GEORGE CLARK, S'N'R, March 20th

In the case of the Commonwealth of Va. against Arthur Campbell, charged with "malpractices and misconduct in the office of a justice of the peace for said County": Washington county

1st. The Said Deponent Deposes that the next Day after James Montgomery was Sworn in Sheriff for said County, that he, the said Deponent, met the said Arthur Campbell at the Court house of Said County, and, after some Talk, he, the said Deponent, asked said Campbell how he thought was the Best way to Conduct at such times. Said Campbel answered that me and all old settlers ought to Imbody ourselves, Pay no Taxes, and Declare for a new State. Said Deponent then replied how he should conduct, Provided the Sheriff should Distress. Said Campbel then said that he did not mean not to pay Taxes, But that he would fill the settlement with Petitions, which he hoped they would sign to a man, and that he would have a new State Established before the Taxes became Due. Campbell's advice to old settlers

2nd. That said Deponent at the last August court for said county saw the said Campbel, who asked David Campbel to shew him that (meaning the Acts of Assembly), which said David (after turning over some Leaves and Directing with his finger to a certain place) Did; After Looking thereon, Arthur Campbel said it was not worth while to pay any Regard to any such Laws or Commissions, and then left the Bench. Some persons present said that it was the Governor's Letter that was now the Business of the court, Signifying that there ought to be Silence, &c. Contempt of the Governor's authority

Said Arthur Campbel said it was not worth the Court's while to pay any regard to any such thing, and that the Governor was no more than any other Individual, and immediately went out of the Court house. And further sayth not.

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1786. T. MERIWETHER TO THE GOVERNOR, IN REPLY,

March 20th Richmond — Stating his inability "to make out a state of the foreign claims against the public," as desired, on account of the accumulation of his official business.

March 21st Washington county Arthur Campbell notified of the proceedings against him

This day Samuel McMurray made oath before me, a justice for s'd County, that he saw Colo. Arthur Campbell receive (the official papers from the Executive, bearing date the thirteenth day of December, 1785) by the hand of Charles Bowen, and on the same day, being the thirtyeth day of January, saw the s'd Bowen deliver Colo. Campbell a notification paper notifying him to meet at Washington Courthouse the 23d day of Feb'y, in order to be present at the Examination of witnesses relating to the charges set forth in the s'd official papers. Given under my hand and Seal this 21st day of March, 1786.

ALEX'R MONTGOMERY, [Seal.]

March 21st Washington county

Sir:

You are hereby notify'd to attend at the Town house the sixth day of March next to be present at the examination of witnesses relative and respecting the charges exhibited by us and now depending before the Executive of Virginia. Also at the house of Capt. Thos. Price, on Clinch, the tenth of s'd month, and at Henry Herklerodes the fourteenth s'd month.

Official notice given to A. Campbell, Va

Witness our hands, 23d Feb'y, 1786.

JAS. MONTGOMERY,
W. EDMISTON,
JAS. KINCANNON,
SAM'L EDMISTON,
JAS. THOMPSON,
ARTHUR BOWAN.

To Colo. ARTHUR CAMPBELL.

This day James Thompson made oath before me, a justice for s'd County, that the above is a true Copy of the notification delivered by him to Arthur Campbell the 23d Feb'y, 1786, and that s'd Campbell attended at the Town house and at Hen'y Herklerodes, agreeable to s'd notice.

Given under my hand and Seal this 21st day of March, 1786.

JOHN LOWREY, [Seal.]

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BOND IN THE SUM OF TEN THOUSAND POUNDS, 1786.

Lawful money of Virginia, of Sam'l Brown, Jas. Henderson, Wm. Poage, And'w Donnally, George Clendinen, John McCue, Chris'r Bryan, Wm. Clendinen, Thos. Grattan, Rob't Clendinen, J. Reid, Wm. McClung, Andrew Hamilton, and Wm. Hamilton, Commissioners appointed to carry into Execution an Act of Assembly "appropriating certain arrears of Publick Taxes to the opening a Waggon Road from the Eastern to the Western Waters," &c. March 22d Greenbrier

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JAS. MONTGOMERY, WM. EDMISTON, JAS. KINCANON, SAM'L EDMISTON, AND JAS. THOMPSON, MAKE REPORT TO GOV'R HENRY, OF VIRGINIA. March 23d

Sir:

In obedience to your Official orders, dated in Council 13th day of Dec. '85, we have proceeded and taken depositions in behalf of Government to support the charges exhibited by us against Mr. Arthur Campbell, and we expect may be sufficient, as will appear by his own letters and sundry depositions transmitted to you, to support the charges and evince to the honorable Executive that our information was not unjustly founded. Mr. Arthur Campbell has attempted every possible obstruction to defeat the measures of taking depositions. Particularly on the 6th of March, at the Town house, he there endeavoured to influence Rob't Campbell, a magistrate who was there taking depositions, from admitting proof that Mr. Arthur Campbell advised the people of this County against returning their taxable property, as required by law, which we alleged came under the charge of preventing the Collection. The fact is, Rob't Campbell accordingly refused taking depositions that day, And several material witnesses who could not attend a considerable distance from home, have failed. The first notification to meet at Washington Court house is proved by the Affidavit of Sam'l McMuney, and notice of meeting at Town house, Capt. Thos. Price's, on Clinch and Herklerodes, delivered in writing by Jas. Thompson in presence of Rob't Preston, and proved by the former, the latter being at Richmond, and his attendance at Washington Court house and the Town house proved by Rob't Russell and the bearer, Capt. Alex'r Montgomery, who will be present, can prove, if required, his attendance at Herklerodes. We expect, sir, all necessary proof in aid to the charges transmitted to you, and if any failure on our part we are to prone to hope further time will be given before a decision of your Honorable board be made, leaving to your wisdom the same indulgence on his part. And we further hope the attention of Council will be had on the conduct of Rob't Campbell as a magistrate, who, we consider, has conducted himself in a partial and unfriendly manner to government, undeserving the confidence of this county. There are several depositions Washington county

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1786. March 23d taken by Rob't Campbell which he refused giving us copies of, and from his conduct in refusing to take several material depositions, we are inclined to suppose it a risque to trust to them—especially coming through the care of Arthur Campbell. We expect Mr. Arthur Campbell will present you a return from the County of Washington to commission magistrates. We consider it of the greatest importance that you should have all possible information on that head; could wish that you wood consult Capt. Alex'r Montgomery relative to the nominations, who can throw much light on the designe. A coroner is also recommended us, by the influence of Arthur Campbell, a man of an infamous character, in order to leave out Jas. Kincanon, who is willing to act, and a commission now with the Clerk of the County for him. Having engaged Capt. Montgomery to accomplish a delivery of the Depositions in time, we trust there can be no necessity for our attendance in person.

With due respect we are, Sir, your Excellency's
obed't Servants, &c., &c.

March 24th Washington county ROB'T RUSSELL'S AFFIDAVIT, MADE BEFORE ALEX'R MONTGOMERY,

That Col. Arthur Campbell attended at Washington Court House on the 23d Feb'y last, and at the Town house 6th March, to be present at the examination of witnesses in behalf of the Commonwealth, relative to charges against him depending before the Executive, &c.

March 26th COMMANDER JAS. BARRON TO GOV. HENRY.

Sir:

Hampton Boats Liberty and Patriot My son, who is obliged to Richmond on Craver's Trial, waits on your Excellency with the Pay Role of the Patriott, made out to the 20th Jan'y last, also an estimate of expences attending the Repairs of the St. Boat Liberty and a new suit of sails for the Patriot. At my return from Richmond Feb'y 11th, I took the Plank off the Liberty, found the timbers to be good, and sett the carpenter to work, which I wrote your Excellency ye 14th, with a List of Expences that would attend the Repairs and outfitts, but not having an answer, I imagine my Letter miscarried. The Carpenter's work is done, and he is in want of money. Capt. James, who commands the Liberty, has come up to Richmond to procure canvas for Sails for her, as I cannot gett any at Norfolk or this Place. I have engaged the men for her, but shall not ship them until she's fitt for service. Officers of the Patriot and the Liberty I also mentioned in my last (to your Excellency) the names of the Commissioned Officers on board each boat, which I was directed to do by the Hon'bl' the Council: The Patriot, Jas. Barron, Commander; Sam'l Barron, Lieut.; The Liberty, Michael James, Commander. The other officer is on the Eastern Shore, and is to return when called on.

I have the honor to be, Sir, with great Respect,
Your Excellency's most ob't serv't, &c., &c.

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[Circular.] 1786.

W. SMALLWOOD, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA. March 30th

Sir:

I have the honor of transmitting to your Excellency the enclosed copy of an act of the Legislature of this State, under the great Seal, passed in their last session, extending the time limitted for bring in and settling Claims against this State by the Citizens thereof, and for limiting the time for bringing in and settling claims against the said State by citizens of the United States. Maryland, Annapolis

By particular direction of the General Assembly of this State, I have to request that you would be pleased to order the substance of this act to be published, or such part thereof as you may judge necessary for the information of the citizens of your State.

The Duty on Salt in this State is suspended after the 1st of April next, unless at that time, or until there be a Duty laid on that article in the States of Virginia and Pennsylvania. This contingency obliges me to request of your Excellency the earliest information on this subject, that the views of the Legislature here may be carried into execution.

I have the honor to be,
Sir, Your Excellency's mo. obed't serv't, &c., &c.

STATEMENT OF ANTHONY NEW AND L. TEMPLE TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL, April 2d

In favor of the petition of the Sheriff of Caroline, praying for releif from the execution against him for failure to collect the Taxes of 1784. Every effort had been made, but the great scarcity of money and the late short crops had put it out of the power of the people to pay. Many would not be able to purchase the necessaries of life for their families, so that coercive measures on his part could have effected nothing. Caroline county

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ANTHONY NEW AND T. TEMPLE TO GOVERNOR HENRY, April 2d

Informing him that the State Solicitor had "sued out" his Execution for balance of certain taxes due for the year 1784. In justice to the sheriff of the county, they assure his Excellency that every "prudent effort has been exerted", on the part of that officer to collect the same, but that the great scarcity of money, together with the late short crops, have put it out of the power of the people to pay, &c. They state also that many of the people will not be able to purchase the necessary supply of food for their families out of their last crop of tobacco; and that if coercive measures were adopted, it would not facilitate the collection of the delinquent taxes, &c. Caroline county

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1786. WM. GRAVES TO COMMODORE BARRON.

April 3d Norfolk. Having overheard from "the conversation of some sailors" that the ship "George" from Jamaica had made a false entry of her cargo, and not being able to inform him (Barron) in time, Col. Parker had authorized him to search her, and he was then on board with only two men—the Mayor and Aldermen refusing to give him the assistance for which he had applied. He had taken "the marks and numbers of all that has been delivered," viz.:

40,000 wt. Brown sugar,
10 Puncheons Rum,
37 Casks Coffee,
2 Packs Cotton,
7 Baggs damaged Ginger,
20 Mahogany Plank only.

Adds:

"I have found on board 50 Hogsheads and tierces, which contain

60,000 wt. Brown sugar,
10 Puncheons Rum,
6 Quarter casks Do.,
4 bls. loaf sugar,
6 Crates of Queens ware,
6 new Anchors,
2 boxes, which they say is Buntin.

A quantity of mahogany furniture, consisting of 10 Tables, 6 or 8 setts of Bedsteads compleat, one Couch with its Furniture, 2 easy chairs and a number of other chaires that I cannot count; also 20 mahogany plank, 38 barrels of Coffee and Packs of Cotton, 7 casks of ginger."

* * * * * * *

"Pray come over, as they will soon deliver as much as they have entered." * * "Should you not come in time I shall be disgraced; the Merchants are all collected, making Remarks and condemning me for my good wishes for my Country."

April 3d Richmond. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. HENRY,

Enclosing recommendations from Washington Count. Court for County officers, and complaining of the irregularites attendant upon their nominations. Some of the Court resided in the *"new County on Clinch." "There is one man recommended that, I am told, can neither read nor write. Two others, young in years and very inexperienced, and lives in one House. In short

*Russell County, formed early in 1786.

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there would be four Justices in this case in one family, and none of them famed for their understanding. In another neighborhood, within a mile of each other, there will be three of the same kin. All this may answer views to screen sheriffs from penalities for neglect of duty, but will be far from promoting the public interest." * * * * *

"The two Coroners lately commissioned have not qualified, one of whom falls by ye division into the new County. There is a necessity for one, or the laws for recovering both public and private moneys out of the hands of sheriffs will be nugatory. The Clerk of Montgomery desired me to enquire why a sheriff have not been commissioned on the last recommendation of the Court, as much disorder are like to happen for want of that office."

1786. April 3d

To his Excellency, PAT. HENRY, ESQ'R.,
Governor of Virginia, and the
hon'ble the Council of State:

April 3d Monday Richmond

The Petition of Arthur Campbell respectfully sheweth: That his health and the badness of the Weather prevented him from reaching Richmond in time. Besides he apprehends that several important and intricate questions may, necessarily, require discussion in the course of enquiry set on foot respecting your petitioner's conduct. He therefore prays that he may be heard by counsel before your honorable Board to-morrow.

Arthur Campbell asks to be heard by counsel

And your petitioner shall pray, &c.,

ARTHUR CAMPBELL.

This being the Day appointed for enquiring into the charges exhibited against Arthur Campbell on the 13th Day of December last, and the Governor haveing laid before the Board sundry Depositions relative thereto, and a Petition from the said Campbell, praying to be heard by his counsel to-morrow, The Board postpone the enquiry aforesaid till to-morrow 10 o'clock, and leave is granted the said Campbell to employ counsel in his defence.

April 3d In Council Proceedings in Council in the case of Arthur Campbell

Extract from the Minutes. A. BLAIR, *C. C.*

At a meeting of the Court of Directors of the Hospital at Williamsburg, for the reception of Idiots, Lunaticks, and persons of Insane mind, held the 3d day of April, 1786:

April 3d

Resolved, That Mr. Jospeh Hornsby be appointed Treasurer to the Hospital, who is authorized to draw from the Public Treasury such sums of money as may be set apart for the purpose of the Hospital, and to pay to the order of the Committee, for that purpose appointed, such sums as may be considered necessary for making the necessary repairs to the Hospital.

A copy—Teste: WILL. RUSSELL,
Clerk to the Hospital.

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1786. April 4th In Council

His Excellency, the Governor, being unable from indisposition to attend to-day, and Arthur Campbell having requested, thro' his counsel, that the consideration of his enquiry be postponed till to-morrow, It is agreed that the same be accordingly postponed till to-morrow 10 o'clock.

Extract from the Minutes.

A. BLAIR, *C. C.*

April 5th In Council

Arthur Campbell appearing in person, and being attended by James Innes and Archibald Stuart, Esquires, his Counsel, The Board resumed the consideration of the charges exhibited against him as a Justice of the peace for the County of Washington, and the charges being read, the said Arthur Campbell, by his Counsel, objected to the jurisdiction of the Board to proceed to the enquiry, under the Act entitled "an Act to extend the powers of the Governor and Council," as being repugnant to the eighth article of the declaration of rights and the principles of the Constitution, which objection being overruled by the Board, the Counsel for the said Campbell proceeded to object to the nature and propriety of the Testimony by Depositions, alledging the Witnesses should personally appear and be examined "*viva voce*," and that the Depositions were taken in a partial manner, declaring at the same time their Client meant not to shrink from the charges being inquired into if impartial persons should be appointed to take Depositions respecting the charges and transmit them to the Board.

Whereupon the Board delivered their opinion, that as the certificate of the Justices annexed to the Depositions did not state the *place* as well as the time *where* the Depositions were taken, in conformity to the notices given, they are not sufficient evidence. It is therefore* Ordered, by the consent of the said Campbell, and Alexander Montgomery, attending on the part of the Accusers, that Depositions respecting the charges aforesaid, as well on the part of the Commonwealth as the said Arthur Campbell, be taken by either party at the Courthouse of Washington County, between the first and last of next month, giving ten Days' notice of the time and place of taking them, and that David Ward, Andrew Cowan, John Latham, John Kincaid, John Lowry, James Fulkerson, and Joseph Black, Gentlemen, or any three of them, being the commissioners chosen by the parties, attend the taking the Depositions of such Witnesses as

* Samp. Mathews, Jos. Jones, Spencer Roane, Miles Selden, and Carter Braxton, Esquires, composed the Board of Council. Spencer Roane, Esq'r., approved the proceedings of the Board, but in a note appended to his signature, to be found in the Journal of the Council, he dissented from their decision, "so far as it asserts a jurisdiction in the Executive to enquire into the charges above mentioned in the manner therein described." Although this record appears upon the Journal of the Council, it is thought proper to insert it here in connection with what is already recorded on the same subject, and because the Journal itself has not been printed.

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shall be produced, and that the Commissioners transmit the Depositions so taken, under their hands and Seals, to the Governor on or before the second Teusday in June next, when, at which time, the parties are to be heard in the Council Chamber touching the charges aforesaid. 1786. April 5th

Copy—Teste:

A. BLAIR, *C. C.*

DAVID STUART TO GOV. HENRY. April 6th

The inhabitants of Alexandria having been consulted as to the propriety of "appointing a Searcher," had agreed thereunto, and, at their request, he begs leave to recommend James Maese McRae for that office. Abingdon

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ROBERT GILCHRIST AND JAMES TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR, April 10th

Requesting the appointment of a Searcher for that Port, "as there are more vessels lye here than at any one place on Rappahannock," and recommending Mr. Robert Johnston for the position. Port Royal, Va

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CAPT. JNO. PEYTON TO COLO. MERIWETHER. April 10th

He apologizes for not having sent the clothing "for ye men taken out of Goal" sooner, and requests he will "direct the Wagoner to bring up the ballance of the old Iron left in the Capitol cellar." Point Fork

---

JAMES BARRON TO GOV. HENRY. April 10th

Sir:

The enclosed Letter to your Excellency is a Copy of one from Mr. Wm. Graves at Norfolk, two Days before the Patriot returned from Richmond. On receipt of it I immediately went over to his assistance in a Pilot Boat with five men with armes, and found one man on board only as Guard, employed by Mr. Graves. The sugars were all landed before I gott there—Graves unable to prevent it for want of assistance. They had begun to hoist out the Rum when I gott over, which I forbid—put a guard on board, and seal'd the Hatches, with orders to the men not to suffer anything to be put out of the ship untill further orders. I then returned to Hampton with Mr. Graves, who has been to W'msburg and taken the necessary steps towards putting the ship in the Court of Admiralty. As I have not been able to procure canvas for the Boats' sails, the "Liberty" remains Idle yett. Mr. King is at Baltimore, and expected back hourly, by whom I expect canvas, after which I shall then begin to fitt out the Liberty immediately. * * * * *

"The money belonging to the Commonwealth (for forfeitures and fines) I

Hampton. The boat Patriot. Seizure of a ship. The Liberty.

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1786. April 10th shall account for in my next settlement with the Auditors, having been obliged to use it in purchasing provisions for the Boats, not having received any from the Treasury for that purpose since the last of August, and then only £19. 6s. 6d.½ in my hands," &c.

April 10th

J. PARKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

Norfolk Naval office I am honored with yours of the 24th ultimo, respecting the duties of my office, which I shall with pleasure pay the most scrupulous attention to in every sense, as far as I have power.

The time seems drawing to a crisis, when the Impost requested by Congress is to take place. As I have never had the honor of addressing your Excellency or an individual Member of Councill on this subject, I beg leave now to offer myself on this occasion, as the collection of the State duties, I presume, will then cease.

If my Conduct hitherto as Naval Officer and Collector has been honored with your approbation, it will probably be remembered when the event takes place. Should it be the case, as Government appears attentive to the object of the impost, I trust it will be in my power to execute the trust with fidelity and integrity, and the honor conferred will with gratitude be remembered.

Gosport A Merchant of character has requested me to apply to your Excellency for leave to fence in a part of the public lands at Gosport for a lumber yard, to be given up whenever required by Government. How convenient would this place be for publick stores for the reception of unentered Goods, for public offices, &c., the expence of which could be erected at small cost, and all the business confined to narrow limits.

The officer which your honorable Board has sent to remove the Cannon to this place is now with me. We have a hope that they are to be fitted up for the protection of our harbour against any piratical attempts to plunder the Towns, as well as to aid in secureing any Vessels which may be seized by the Searchers of the Customs. If I have been to free in these latter suggestions, the liberality of your Board will doubtless excuse him, who does himself honor, with the most dutiful respect, of subscribing himself their

most obedient servant, &c., &c.

[Circular.]

April 12th

CHARLES BIDDLE, *Vice-President*, TO GOV. HARRISON, OF VA.

Sir:

Philadelphia Council Chamber I have the honor to communicate a Resolution of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth of the twenty-first day of March last, and a Minute of Council thereupon of this day.

I am, Sir, with the highest Respect,

Your most obedient humble servant, &c., &c.

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State of Pennsylvania, In General Assembly: 1786.

TUESDAY, March 21st, 1786, A. M. April 12th

The Report of the Committee, read March 11th, on that part of the message from the Supreme Executive Council, which respects a Convention of the States proposed by the Commonwealth of Virginia, was read the second time—whereupon,

Resolved, That five Commissioners be appointed on the part of this State, any three of whom may act, to meet such commissioners as may be appointed by the other States in the Union, at a time and place to be agreed on, to take into consideration the Trade of the United States; to examine the relative situations and Trade of the said States; to consider how far an uniform System in their Commercial Regulations may be necessary to the Common interest, and their permanent harmony; and to report to the several States such an Act relative to this great Object, as, when unanimously ratified by them, will enable the United States, in Congress assembled, effectually to provide for the same; and also to meet Commissioners of Virginia and Maryland to communicate reciprocally the Regulations of Commerce and duties proposed by each State, and within their respective powers; and that the Supreme Executive Council be authorized and requested to make the said appointment of Commissioners, and to give them such instructions from time to time as they shall think expedient.

Extract from the Minutes.

JACOB SHALLUS,
Ass't Clerk.

In Council, Philadelphia, April 12th, 1876: Council proceeded to the Election of five Commissioners, under the Resolution of Assembly of the twenty-first of March last, when it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen, viz't: Robert Morris, George Clymer, John Armstrong, Jun'r, Thomas Fitzsimmons, and Tench Coxe, Esquires.

Extract from the Minutes.

JAMES TRIMBLE,
for JOHN ARMSTRONG, J'N'R,
Secretary.

April 18th Washington county Arthur Campbell notified of deposition to be taken, &c

Sir:

You are hereby notify'd to attend at Washington Court house (Virginia) the third, fourth and fifth, the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth, and the twenty-fifth, twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh days of May next, to be present at the examination of witnesses, relative and Respecting

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1786. April 18th

several charges exhibited against you by us, and now depending before the Executive of s'd State.

As witness our hands this 18th day of April, 1786.

To ARTHUR CAMPBELL.

JAS. MONTGOMERY,
W. EDMISTON,
SAM. EDMISTON,
JAS. KINCANNON,
JAS. THOMPSON,
ARTHUR BOWAN.

Washington, ss.:

This day John Harris came before me, a Justice for s'd County, and made oath that he saw Jas. Thompson deliver a true Copy of the above notification to Arthur Campbell, the same day it is dated, being the 18th.

Given under my hand and seal this 18th day of April, 1786.

April 18th

SAM'L MCDOWELL TO GOV. HENRY OF VA.

Sir:

Lincoln county Critical condition of that country Colonel William Christian killed

The present circumstances of this County is such as Induces me to make bold to write your Excellency on the Ocation. The Indians have been very troublesome this Spring and of late have Invaded the County of Jefferson and are now almost every day commiting depredations there. Our good friend Colo. William Christian has lately falen a sacrifice to their Barbarity, and I much fear if measures are not Speedily Persued for the support and defence of that Part, the Country will break up and of course the People be greatly distressed.

A fiew men from this County for their present defence is all that can be done, which (in my opinion) will be of little advantage. And as far as I am able to Judge we have no way to Prevent the Indians from Invading us but by carrying a body of men into their country, which I beleive we cannot attempt unless your Excellency and the Hon'ble Council will authorize us so to do. The Indians that Invade Jefferson live on the Wabash and not more than about 150 miles from the falls of Ohio, and I believe could be attacked with success. We are not only troubled with the Wabash Indians but the Chickomagies, a part of whom have lately setled over the Ohio on a Creek called Paint Creek; they are said to be about seventy warriors, who have stolen almost all the Horses from Limestone and Licking Setelments. Those on the Tennassee disturb, our Eastern and Southern fronteers, and about ten days since have killed Colo. John Donelson on his way to Cumberland from this County. If your Excellency and the Hon'ble Board should be of opinion that some spirited Exertion of this Country for its defence is necessary, And grant the Powers proper for accomplishing the Business, I flatter my self it may be attend with happy Effects to this Country.

Colonel John Donelson killed

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LEVIN POWELL TO THE GOV. & COUNCIL, 1786.

On behalf Mr. Thos. Lewis, late Sheriff of that County, soliciting a remission of the damages obtained by Judgement against him for the Taxes of 1783. The excessive drought and the necessity the people were under in that year of purchasing food had prevented the collection of these dues—many were distressed for want of food, clothing, and furniture during "a most remarkable hard winter." No one could purchase articles put up for sale for want of money, and many people had been forced to remove from that County to the Western waters and the Southern States. April 18th Loudon county

THOS. HUGART TO THE GOVERNOR IN REPLY. April 19th

He had received the Commission as High sheriff of Augusta County, but begs the time allowed by law for collecting the Taxes be extended by the Executive, on account of the "sparsed situation of its Inhabitants and the scarcity of cash." Staunton

JOHN MAY TO GOV. HENRY. April 19th

Sir:

I am sorry to have such distressing Information to give you as that of the death our Friend, Col. Christian, who was last week killed by the Indians. Ever since my coming to this County the Indians have, at times, been committing murders upon and stealing Horses from the Inhabitants of the Kentucky Country, particularly about the neighborhood of the Falls of Ohio and Limestone Creek, from which two places they have taken almost all the Horses, and scarcely a week has passed since I came out without some Person being murdered. All the Indians on and about the Wabashe are for war, and news is just received from there that there are several Hundred of them at this time out at war, which is highly probable from the circumstances of their being at this time in almost every Part of our Western and Southwestern Frontier. They had frequently been on Beargrass, and Col. Christian, in order to induce others to go in pursuit of them, has, upon every occasion, gone himself. And last week he, with about twenty men, crossed the Ohio and overtook three Indians, whom they killed; but his Men not obeying his orders, which were to rush all together on them, he with three others only overtook the Indians, and was so unfortunate as to receive a mortal wound himself, and Capt. Isaac Keller received another. It is most remarkable that there were only two guns belonging to the Indians, both of which did Execution, although one of the Indians was shot through with three balls, and was, at the Time of his firing his gun at Keller, lying on the Ground totally disabled in one arm and unable to rise up. On the Return of the Party they met with such a number of Indian Encampments, where there ap-

Crab Orchard Death of Colonel William Christian Indian depredations

Death of Captain Isaac Keller

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1786. April 19th — peared to be so many Indians, that they were obliged to make the best of their way to Clarkesville; but Col. Christian died before they reached that place. Since Col. Christian's Death the Indians have been at his Plontation and taken away horses, and have also stolen Horses from and killed several Men in other parts of this Country. Col. Doneldson is amongst the slain, as well as several others of our useful Citizens. I do not recollect the number that have been killed since I come out, but I know of about twenty.

Colonel Doneldson killed

Mrs. Christian is about moving to the neighborhood of Danville. The principal men of all the Counties are attempting to carry on a voluntary Expedition ag'st the Indians, but I am apprehensive it will fail. You will excuse the Liberty w'ch I have taken in addressing you on this subject, as it not intended as an official Letter. I presume it is a subject so interesting to you that you will be glad to receive Information through any channel. I am, sir,

y'r Humb. Serv't, &c., &c.

April 19th — BENJAMIN LOGAN, C. L., TO GOV. HENRY.

Dear Sir:

Lincoln Courthouse — You will find inclosed An Aplication from the County of Jefferson to those of Nelson, Lincoln, and Tyatee for there aid to surpress a Body of Indiens, who resides on the Wabash River. You will Discover in the aplication the unhappy fate of the Brave, Spirrited, generous-hearted Colo. William Christian, also a Capt. Keller. The Enemy are repeating there Barbarities almost every day in some part of the Country. The kill'd Colo. John Donelson, on 11th of this instant, in the Southern parts of the County of Lincoln. Several settlements are Avacuated in this country with the lose of defferent People. I have the greatest Reasons to beleave there is a Compact between the Southeren and Western Indiens, and that the intend to cutt off this Country. Upon these Considerations I have thought it my Duty to inform Your Excelency those circumstances, and furder takes Liberty to inform you Geaneral Clarck is in the County of Jefferson, and is Recovered from A low state of health, and is likely to be able to serve the Public. I hope your Excellency and the Honourable Councell will fall on such measures and give us such Derections for our Safety as You in Your wisdom may think best.

I am Your Excellency's

most obed't and Humble Serv't, &c., &c.

April 22d — CHAS. THOMSON, SEC'Y OF CONGRESS,

Office of Secretary of Congress — Enclosing copies of Treaties to the Executive of Virginia, entered into between Commissiones on the part of the United States and the Shawanese, Cherokee, Choctaw, and Chickasaw Indian nations, and urging the policy of requiring a strict observance in good faith of all the articles thereof on the part of the citizens of Virginia, &c.

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PETITION OF SHERIFF OF PRINCESS ANNE CO., 1786.

To the Gov. and Council for releif against Execution, he having been delinquent in collecting the Taxes for 1784. He "had repeatedly seized the property of those who were in arrears and advertized it for sale, but such was the scarcity of money and the temper of the People, in many cases no person would bid, so that your Petitioner, notwithstanding his utmost endeavors, was incapable of compleating his collections for the year 1784." April 26th

IMPORTS April —

Between 10th of April, 1785, to the 10th April, 1786:

Gallons of Distil'd Spirits.....	91,373	@	2s.,	£ 9,137.	6.	"
ditto of wine.....	6,966	@	5s.,	1,741.	10.	0.
ditto of Beer	781	@	6d.,	19.	10.	6.
Bushels of Salt.....	29,144	@	1s.,	1,457.	4.	"
Pounds of Salt	12	@	4s.,	2.	8.	0.
ditto of Cordage.....	1,300	@	60s.,	39.	"	"
ditto of Coffee.....	8,244	@	9d.,	309.	3.	0.
ditto of Sugar.....	124,653	@	28s,	1,745.	2.	10.
Other Goods.....				88,904.	16.	10.
				£ 103,356.	1.	2.

Imports

EXPORTS

Between 10th April, 1785, and 10th April, 1786:

Hogsheads Tobacco	10,483	@	£12.,	£ 125,796.	0.	0.
Barrels flour.....	25,622	@	£ 2.,	51,244.	0.	0.
ditto of Bread.....	1,333	@	25s.,	1,666	5.	
ditto of Fish.....	817	@	30s.,	1.225.	10.	0.
Bushels Wheat.....	93,396	@	7s.,	32,688.	12.	"
ditto of Corn.....	37,484	@	6s.,	11,245.	4.	0.
Hhds. of Flaxseed.....	43	@	70s.,	125.	10.	0.
ditto of Ginsang.....	7	@	£30.,	210.	"	"
Pounds Sarsaparella.....	977	@	6d.,	24.	8.	6.
Staves.....	127,700	@	£ 10. p'r M.,	1,277.	"	"
Feet of lumber.....	158,400	@	£ 15.,	2,376.	"	"
Shingles.....	488,000	@	36s.,	878.	8.	0
Hoop poles.....	1,500	@	£ 10. p'r M.,	15.	"	"
				£ 288,801.	17.	6.

Exports

Ball. in fav'r of Exports, £185,445. 16. 4.

22,190. to be deducted as above.

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1786. GEN'L GEO. R. CLARK TO GOV'R HENRY OF VIRGINIA.

* * * * * * * *

Sir :

May — Louisville Since my return to this Country, report says that Mr. Daniel Broadhead has got a number of Certificates and other papers from the Soldiery who serv'd in this Country, and that the manner of geting them is not much to his Credit. * * * * *

I make no doubt you have long since had a full account of the late Indian treatys at the mouth of Miami. * * * *

What future Effect they may have on the Nations Treated with is impossible to tell, but some good consequences has already appeared in the peaceable behaviour of some of those Indians. Notwithstanding. I don't think that this Country, even in its Infant state, bore so gloomy an aspect as it does at present. The loss of Colonel Christian (whom the Inhabitants had great future hopes in) hath caused general Uneasiness; add to this the Certainty of a War already Commenced and early this Spring declared by the Waubauch Indians in General, amounting in the whole to upwards of 1,500 Warriors, Encouraged by the British Traders from Detroit, and their own Inclination—when you take a view of our Situation, Circumstanced as we are, no prospect of support (at best, for several months), so formidable and bloody an Enemy to encounter, much Irregularity in the Country—no power to order the militia out of the State for its protection, and before the Assembly meets, or any Assistance can be got from Congress on Your making Application to them for it, I doubt great part of these beautiful Settlements will be laid waste, without protected by volunteers penetrating into the Hart of the Enemy's Country; nothing else will do, Scouts and Forts on the Frontiers, answer but little purpose and in the End cost more than an Army that would do the Business Effectually at once. Was a sufficient force to appear in their Country, after a general action, which I think should take place, they would Sue for peace, and agree to any terms you pleas'd, to Save their Country from total destruction. Such an Example would have a great and good impression on these Indians already treated with, as fear would cause them to be peaceable, when presents make them believe we are afraid of them, and rather an Incouragement for them to make war upon us when they get poor. This is a notorious truth, well known by those that are acquainted with their Dispositions. A few days ago, an Engagement happened near St. Vincents, on the Waubaush, in which twelve of the Indians lay on the field and a number wounded.

I have the honour to be your Excellency's

Most Humble and obedient Servant, &c., &c.

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CAPT. JOHN PEYTON TO COL. THOS. MERIWETHER. 1786.

He sends by "the waggon" 24 p'rs Stockings, 12 coats, 12 Leather Caps and 2 p'r Pistols, * * * * * May 2d Point of Fork

He had contracted with Mr. D. Ross "for cutting the Wheels of the Fort Carriages," to be delivered there or at Westham at £30 p'r Ton;" also, "for mounting the Field pieces on Traveling Carriages, to be done in the best manner with Timber seasoned three years" for £25 p'r piece. He had made contracts "for the moveing of the cannon from Chicahominy to Hood's," and from Nansemond to Norfolk, to be done by 1st of June.

PURSUANT TO AN ORDER OF COUNCIL May 3d

Directed to us, David Ward, Andrew Cowan, John Latham, John Kincaid, John Lowrey, James Fulkerson, and Joseph Black, bearing date the 5th day of April, 1786, to take the Depositions in Behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, respecting Sundry Charges against Arthur Campbell, Esq'r, for mal-practice in the Office of Justice of the peace, lodged against him by James Montgomery, William Edmonston, James Thompson, Samuel Edmonston, James Kinkannon, and Arthur Bowen, Complainants, Before the Governor and Council Relative to the charges Exhibited against him— At Washington Court-house, in the town of Abingdon

GENERAL WILLIAM RUSSELL Deposition of General William Russell

Deposeth and Saith: On the Twelth day of February, 1785, at the House of William Colly, in Washington County, your Deponent attended a meeting of a number Inhabitants of s'd County. The people assembl'd. Colo. Campbell adrest them, saying he had Call'd them Togather to Explain to them an anormis sum of money paid by the people of this Contry to the State of Virginia, which he s'd Reportedly amounted to near Two Million more than was due from this Contry to Government. He s'd he was Exceedingly Alarmed to find that Taxes was to be Demanded of the people of Washington that year, then reduced to absolute certainty, the Sheriff having given Security for the Collection. Your Deponent well remembers Colo. Campbell told the people that sum of money opperated upon them as a Tax, and that the People ought to pay no Tax till that sum was accounted for by Government to the people here. Your Deponent then told the people that Colo. Campbell's Deductions were drawn from Aronious Calculations by the lump, Intended to mislead and Insence them against Government. Your Deponent then urg'd the people Ought to pay the half Tax then Cal'd for; and Further told the people their compliance with that, and in Futer, might perhaps Favour them to procure an

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1786. May 3d abatement, if not a Final Remittance of the Arears by Our Assembly. Colo. Campbell Immediately replyed, truly the Gentleman preaches up to You Passive Obedience and non-Resistance. Your Deponent then Informed the people the Sheriff would take Beef Cattle for the Collection, to make it Easy on those who Could not rais Money to pay their Taxes. Some of the people replyed, the would take up arms before the would pay Their Tax. Colo. Campbell Instantly replyed, he liked such Men, who would take up arms Rather than Submit to so unjust a Tax. Colo. Campbell then propos'd That all for his Measure Should Chuse a Committee, and with these Retir'd aside. Your Deponent attended a meeting at Major Dizart's, on the Fourteenth of the Same Instant, when Colo. Campbell adresed the people then present, with the same Explination of Statements He had offer'd on the Twelth at William Collys, urging that the people of this Contry had p'd near Two Millions Money more than their Just Quota, and aledged it was unjust for us to pay tax Till that was accounted for. Your Deponent attended one other meeting at Sinking Spring Meeting House, On the Fifteenth of the same Instant, Being Washington February Court day, And your Deponent Supposeth near three Hundred people present at s'd meeting. Colo. Campbell adres'd them as Before in Oposition to the Collection of the Taxes, and again Aledg'd this Country had paid near Two Millions over and above what ought to be p'd to Government, And recommended the people Ought to pay no Tax Untill that was Settled by the State. Colo. Campbell s'd he was surprised to find in what manner measures had been taken to precipitate the Collection by the Sheriff and his Sureties. Colo. Campbell Observed, we had but lately Escap'd from British Tirany, and he fear'd it was likely to take place in our own State. He Exclaim'd Generally Against the laws passed by the General Assembly in 1784 as Tiranical and Oppressive. Your Deponent once more observ'd to the people that Col. Campbell's Inferences led to Seduce them from Government—That his Insinuations and refusal to pay Taxs led to Rebellion, in which Predicament, if led by him, we must Either subjugate Virginia, or Virginia would reduce us.

At July, Washington Court, 1783, the Governor's Proclamation being read near the Court-House door by the Sheriff, Intend'd to enforce the militia Law of 1784, Your Deponent and Field Officers, as by a late appointm't by the Governor, Went before the Court and apply'd to be Quallified to their Commissions. Colo. Campbell, then on the Bench and Judge of the Court, He required to know what Commission, of which Your Deponent Inform'd him and handed him the Governor's Proclamation; he having red it, or part of it, took his Hatt and leaving the Bench Declar'd he would not tamely submit to it so.

Colo. Campbell then Adres'd the Court and said that the Governor and Council had exceeded their powers. He told the Court the Governor's Proclam. was no law. Your Deponent Observ'd to the Court It was a power sufficient to Enforce a law. Colo. Campbell then observ'd the

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Militia Law was in the Highest degree Oppressive and Tirannical, and the Executive having suspended the law till January, 1786, had no right to Inforce it at that time, and he assured the Court the power to Inforce that Law or not, was in them and not in the Executive. 1786. May 3d

It appear'd to your Deponent that Colo. Campbell supposeing he would be overrul'd by the Court in his proposition, then propos'd to the Court to postpone the Qualification of the Officers till the August Court. Your Deponent then Observ'd to the Court the Risque of the Frontier would not admit of that Delay, as Depredations had been Commited not long Before on our Frontier by the Saviges.

Colo. Campbell then Reply'd that was not of much consequence. And Further your Deponent saith not.

Capt. Joseph Cole

Captain Joseph Cole's deposition

Deposeth and Saith: That about the last of January, 1785, I being in company with Colo. Arthur Campbell, and being in Discourse about the Assembly, He said they was a parcel of pretty Fellows to send here for Taxes; he also said he would call A Committee and put a stop to peoples paying Taxes till such times as they would pay what money they ow'd the County.

The Deponent being Interrogated whether he heard Colo. Campbell advise the people not to send A member to the General Assembly, He Answered, he did not.

Being ask'd whether he ever heard Colo. Campbell Persuade people to join in a Separation from the State of Virginia, He answered he heard Colo. Campbell tell Capt. Ewing that he would have A new State before Long.

Being ask'd whether he heard Colo. Campbell say anything against the Feild Officers Quallifying at July Court, 1785, He, the Deponent, answered that he heard Colo. Campbell say that the Governor had no Right to Issue such A Proclamation and Requested the Court not to suffer them to Quallify to their Commissions. The s'd Deponent further saith not.

Sworn before us the Commissioners in obedience to an Order of the the Executive bearing date the 5th day of April, 1786, for taking Depositions in behalf of the State against Collo. Arthur Campbell, and under notice by the Complainants for that purpose given to him the 18th April last.

Colo. Campbell not present.

DAVID WARD, [Seal.]
ANDREW COWAN, [Seal.]
JOHN LATHAM, [Seal.]
JOHN KINKEAD, [Seal.]
JOHN LOWREY, [Seal.]
JAS. FFULKERSON, [Seal.]
JOSEPH BLACK, [Seal.]

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1786. FURTHER DEPOSITIONS

May 3d
May 3d
Washington
Courthouse

In the case of the Commonwealth of Va. against Arthur Campbell, taken and sworn to before the Commissioner, &c.:

ANDREW KINCANNON

Andrew Kincannon's deposition

Deposeth and Saith: About the Beginning of the year 1785, he was in Conversation with Col. Arthur Campbell, at the deponant's own house, concerning the State of Franklin. Colo. Campbell said he allowed Montgomery and Washington Counties Ought to be Join'd to the s'd State of Frankland, and that it would be the Case Before long, and the sooner the Better. If we did not Join them soon we Could not Expect to share With them in the advantag's of Government, as we would not have a Representation in forming their Constitution. Your deponent ask'd him how he liked their proceedings in Franklin. His answer was that he disapp'd of their proceeding to Business so Rapidly Before they new whether Congress would Except of the Sesion made by North Carolina, Or had the aprobation of Congress. Colo. Cambpell also said that he allowed Franklin and the above-mentioned Counties would fall in the Bounds of one State as laid off by Congress. Your Deponent further saith, that about the last of March, or the first of April, in the same year, he was at James Dizerts, where there was a number of people gather'd together in order to form a Letter or memorial, as they cal'd it, to send to Congress. When your depon't and Colo. Campbell had some dispute about Joining the state of Franklin, In which he ask'd Colo. Campbell if the state of North Carolina were to send force against the Franklin people, to subject them to obedience to the Government of North Carolina, whether he would be Willing to give them aid, meaning the Franklin people? On which he answered, by all means we ought, if we Expected to Share with them in the advantag's of Government.

The Deponent being interrogated whether ever he heard Colo. Campbell say he would not return his Taxable property for the year '85, or advise others not to return; being also ask'd if he ever heard Colo. Campbell say he thought we ought not to send members to the General Assembly from this County?

The Deponant's answer to Each of the above Questions was, he did not, to his remembrance.

The Deponant being asked whether ever he hard Colo. Campbell say Virginia had no right to ask money as Tax's from us, answer'd and said he hard him say Words to that Effect, and the reason Colo. Campbell Give was that we had p'd money for our Lands which operated against us as Taxes.

The Deponant being asked whether ever he hard Colo. Campell advise the Court of Washington not to admit the Field officers under the Governor's proclamation to Qualify to their Commissions, answered he did. And Further Saith not.

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THOMAS BERRY 1786.

May 3d Thomas Berry's deposition

Deposeth and saith, that some time in the month of February, '85, at the Sinking Spring Meeting House, heard Colo. Arthur Campbell tell a number of people who was there Gather'd, that they had p'd their Taxes allready, and produc'd a calculation paper in Order to strengthen his Arguments, and said Before that he would live under such Government he would take his musket on his shoulder and Fight 'til he lost the last drop of Blood in his Body, and, after speaking a few more words, he said he would sell, nay, and leave the Contry Before he would live so.

The Deponant, Being Intarogated whether ever he heard Col. Campbell say he would not return his Taxable property for the year '85, or advise others not to return; Being also ask'd if he ever heard Colo. Campbell say he thought we ought not to send members to the General Assembly from this County; Being further ask'd whether Colo. Campbell recommended him or others to Join in a Separation from the State of Virginia and unite with the Franklin people in their scheme of Separation? The fourth Question being ask'd, whether or not he heard Colo. Campbell advise the Court of Washington not to admit the Feild officers under the Governor's Proclamation to Quallifie to their Commissions? The Deponant's answer was to Each of the above Questions was, he did not.

JAMES THOMPSON, ONE OF THE COMPLAINANTS,

James Thompson's deposition

Deposeth and saith, that on the 19th day of July, '85, Washington Court-day, being present when the Feild officers' Commissions were laid Before s'd Court, in Order to be Quallified thereto, and the Governor's Proclamation Being red, Colo. Arthur Campbell, then on the Bench, ask'd to look at the Commissions, or some of them, which were handed to him, who, after looking thereon, s'd the Proclamation and Commissions were unconstitutional and Illegal; for that the Governor had no right to Issue such a proclamation and Commissions; then, Quiting the Bench and Adresed himself to the Court, telling them that the militia law was arbitrary, Tiranical, and oppressive, at the same time Condemning the Assembly for Ennacting the Law, said that the power of enforcing the law was in the power of the Court and people, and not in the Executive, and hop'd that the Court would pay no reguard to the militia law or the Proclamation; also hoped that the Court would not suffer the officers to Qualifie at that time.

The Deponant being Intarogated, Whether he ever heard Colo. Campbell say he Would not return his Taxable property for the year '85, Or Advise others not to do it, Or say Virginia had no right to ask Money as Taxes of us; Being also ask'd if ever he hard Colo. Campbell say he thought we Ought not to send Members to the General Assembly from this County; Being further ask'd whether he heard Col. Campbell

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1786. May 3d recommend him or Others to join a Separation from the State of Virginia and unite with the Franklin people in their Scheme of Saparation. The Deponant's answer to each of the above Questions was, no. And Further saith not.

May 4th

WE, THE COMMISSIONERS,

Washington Courthouse By order of the Executive, to take Depositions in behalf of the State against Col. Arthur Campbell, do certify that James Thompson, one of the complainants, came before us and made oath that he delivered the Citation to Col. Campbell on the 18th day of April last to Attend the Commissionrs on the 3d, fourth and 5th, fifteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth, Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh days of May at Washington Courthouse.

Given under our hands and Seals this 4th of May, 1786.

DAVID WARD, [Seal.]
AND. COWAN, [Seal.]
JOHN KINKEAD, [Seal.]
JOSEPH BLACK, [Seal.]

May 4th

THE REASONS ASSIGNED TO US, THE COMMISSIONERS,

By John Campbell, Brother to Col. Arthur Campbelle, for his non-appearance at the Town of Abingdon, on the 3d and 4th days of May, at the takeing Depositions was, as the Said John Campbell informed us, his Brother Wrote to him, first, his Children had the Whooping Cough; Second, he was Backward with his Spring Crop, and, Lastly, he did not think he was Legally notifyed.

Certify'd under our hands and Seals this 4th Day of May, 1786.

DAVID WARD, [Seal.]
ANDR. GOWAN, [Seal.]
JOHN KINKEAD, [Seal.]
JOSEPH BLACK, [Seal.]

May 4th

DEPOSITIONS

Washington Courthouse, Abingdon Taken in the Case of the Commonwealth of Va. against Arthur Campbell, &c., before the Commissioners appointed, &c.:

CHARLES BOWEN

Deposed, in substance, to the same facts as sworn to by Jas. Thompson, Thos. Berry, Andrew Kinkead, and others.

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WILLIAM CRABTREE 1786.

Deposeth and Saith: That some time in the summer, 1784, being at Arthur Campbell's house, and falling into discourse about the sheriff of Montgomery County seizing and Selling Horses, taken on Execution at an under Value, said Campbell addressing himself to the Deponent said, don't you let or suffer any sheriff whatever to take your Property and sell it, but rather apply to your muskets for Redress, and I will back you. May 4th

Being asked whether he ever heard Col. Campbell say he would not make return of his own property, and advised others to Do likewise; that members of the Assembly should not be elected from that County; that he recommended joining the People of Franklin in their Scheme for Separation, and advised the Co. Court not to commission the Field Officers appointed, &c., the Deponent answered, "No."

ARTHUR BOWEN

Deposed in substance to the facts, heretofore recorded, in regard to the resistance to collection of the taxes; to the reply made by Gen'l Russell to Campbell's Speech on this subject at meetings of the people, and to the threat made by them that they would take up arms before they would pay the tax; that Campbell's friends huzzed for Liberty, &c., &c. But he had never heard Campbell advocate the policy of not sending delegates to the Assembly, or refuse to give in his own taxable property. But he had heard him advocate the separation from Virginia, on the ground that "the laws which answered the people down the country did not answer us," and he thought it was best to unite with the Franklin People. He was present at Court when Col. Campbell, tho' on the Bench, opposed the Commissioning the Feild Officers, appointed by the Governor.

ANDREW COWAN

Deposed, that at March Court, 1785, at Smith's Tavern, in Abingdon, he asked Arthur Campbell "if he intended to stand a Pole at the Ensuing Elections," he answered no, and added, "it was best to send no members to the Assembly." He had never heard him advocate refusal to give in return of taxable property, or a separation from the State, but he had been present on the occasion when Col. Campbell opposed the Commissioning the Feild officers of the County.

GEORGE CLARKE

Deposeth and Saith: That at March Court, after Mr. Montgomery was sworn in sheriff, being in company with Col. Campbell in Abingdon, the deponent ask'd said Campbell his opinion about paying Taxes. Col. Campbell said that if he was in the old settlers' places he would not pay any Taxes to the State of Virginia. The Deponent ask'd what would be-

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1786. May 4th

come of himself and others if the sheriff should Distress for the Tax? Colo. Campbell said if that should be the case he would have a Petition for a Separation from the State of Virginia. The Deponent said we should still have the Taxes to pay. Colo. Campbell Reply'd we should have small acknowledgment to pay.

He had never hear Col. Campbell advocate refusal to make returns of of taxable property, or say that Virginia had no right to "ask money as Taxes of us"; he had heard him recommend that delegates should not be sent to the Gen'l Assembly "for one year." When questioned in regard to the Commissioning the County Field officers, he said That when the Commissions were brought in and laid on the Table, Colo. Campbell Ask'd his Brother, David Campbell, for the Acts of Assembly, and he handed them to him as he sat on the Bench, and he read a few Lines and then turn'd round and took his Hatt, and said it is not worth minding such nonsense, and step'd down. And after some Debating, said it was not worth while to pay any Regard to such Laws or Commissions. * * * * Some Persons present Reply'd that we ought to pay Regard to such Laws as came from the Governor and Council, And Colo. Campbell Reply'd that the Governor was no more than any other Individual.

ROB'T PRESTON

Deposed that he was at the meeting held at Sinking Spring Meeting House in consequence of a *letter received from Col. Campbell, Dated at Goodwood, Feb'y 7th, 1785, and after hearing his arguments against paying the revenue tax and the execution of the militia law, he "chose to leave the meeting," not being satisfied with Campbell's statements. Upon which Col. Campbell endeavoured to persuade him to stay, expressing surprise that he, "an Irishman, was so Indifferent" about his Liberty, intimating thereby that it was in danger.

The deponent had never heard Col. Campbell express the opinion that Virginia had no right to Tax that County, nor that delegates should not be sent to the Gen'l Assembly. But upon further examination, "he heard Col. Campbell say that he would wish us to be in a separate State, in connection with those who are now cal'd the State of Franklin, or words to that purpose, and that he thought we could Live better under A new Government than under the Present Government, as what money we had amongst us would continue to circulate amongst us, and would not go to the Eastward, from whence little or none of it Returns." When asked by what means Col. Campbell said he expected to obtain a new State, he replied he intended to begin with Petitions to the General Assembly of Virginia and to Congress. In regard to the commissioning the Feild officers, he further deposed "that at the July Court, 1785, Col. Campbell, not being on the Bench, used many arguments, Endeavouring to persuade the

*This letter has already been recorded.

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Court not to permit the officers to swear in to their Commissions under the present militia Law; Representing the said Law as subversive to the Liberties of A free People." Also, "As the Governor had Issued a Proclamation suspending said Law till a certain time, that he did not think they had a Right to Enforce the said Law by any other Proclamation till that time was Expired," and wished to have the "swearing in" put off until August Court next, at which time he was not afraid but he would have other orders from the Executive of the State." The Deponent further saith not. 1786. May 4th

Sworn to before us, the Commissioners, in obedience to an order of the Executive, bearing date the 3d day of April, 1786, for taking Depositions in behalf of the State against Colo. Arthur Campbell, and under notice by the Complainants for that purpose, given to him the 18th of April last.

DAVID WARD, [Seal.]
AND. COWAN, [Seal.]
JOHN KINKEAD, [Seal.]
JOSEPH BLACK, [Seal.]

JAMES HAYES TO THE GOVERNOR, May 5th

Expressing his regret "that the Laws of the last Session could not possibly be compleated sooner than they were; their uncommon number, together with the great length of some of them, would have put it out of the power of *any Printer* to have finished within the time expressed in the Resolution of October Session 1783."

ARTHUR CAMPBELL May 5th

To Messrs. James Montgomery, William Edmiston, Saml. Edmiston, Jas. Kincannon, Jas. Thompson, Arthur Bowen, or any of them, notifying them that In compliance with the Orders of the hon'ble, the Executive of Virginia, bearing date the 13th Day of December, 1785, and the 5th Day of April, 1786, and in conformity to the Act of Assembly to *extend the powers of the Governor and Council*, he should proceed to take the Depositions of Col. James Dysart, Robt. Craig, Wm. Tate, Major M. Montgomery, John Kincaid, and many others, at Washington Court House, on certain days of this month (May), &c.

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1786. W. J. MOULSON TO GOV. HENRY.

Sir:

May 6th Cumberland — Called upon not only from my anxiety for my immediate Acquaintances, but likewise for my Countrymen in general, I thus presume to address you, and if proper will attend you at any moment to explain what is merely impossible I could do on Paper. A dangerous insurrection is among the Negroes meditated, and a little after Harvest they mean to put it in Execution. A Hint to your Excellency I know to be sufficient when the importance is so great. Your mandate will call me from Cumberland Court House, at the first notice of it, when I will disclose the names of Some of the principals, and various other matters relative to the affair, which, by Stratagem, I drew from one who was to have been very active. If you think this worth your observation, send for your obedient Serv't, &c. &c.

May 12th — FRANCIS PEYTON TO GOV'R HENRY BY COLO. ELLZEY,

Loudoun county — Nominating Thomson Mason, Esq'r, to supply the place of George West, deceased, late Colo. of the first Battalion of Militia, &c.

May 12th — CAPT. JNO. PEYTON TO COL. MERIWETHER,

Point of Fork. — Informing him he had to borrow money on his own account to purchase two waggon horses and Iron for the use of ye Public. Six months' pay was due the Armorers and Guards, who he feared would not remain in the service unless paid. He is willing to wait for his own Salary, but is solicitious in regard to the former.

May 16th — ARTHUR CAMPBELL

Washington county — Notified to attend at Washington Co. House the twenty-ninth, thirtieth, and thirty-first days of May, in order to be present at the Examination of Witnesses, and the takeing depositions, &c., relative to charges against him by Wm. Edmiston, Jas. Kincannon, Saml. Edmiston and Jas. Thompson.

May 16th — JOHN KINKEAD, JOHN LOWREY, JOSEPH BLACK, AND JOHN LATHIM, COMMISSIONERS,

Certify that the notification given to Arthur Campbell for taking Depositions on the third, fourth, and fifth, fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth, twenty-fifth, twenty-sixth, and twenty-seventh days of May was not legal, as the names of the witnesses was not mentioned in the notification.

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DEPOSITION OF JAMES DYSART, GENT. 1786.

Taken before John Kincaid, John Lathim, and James Fulkerson, Commissioners appointed by the Hon'bl., the Executive, &c., deposeth and saith: May 18th Washington county

That Arthur Campbell advised said deponent to pay his publick tax, and also at a meeting at Mr. Colly's, some weeks before the election in ye year '85, some person there present proposed a question whether something should be said concerning the payment of publick taxes. Arthur Campbell, then sitting, arose quickly and went from the company, saying it was a matter that did not come before them. After going out of Doors the deponent heard Arthur Campbell say it was his oppinion that the people should give in their Taxable property and pay there Tax, and further saith that at s'd meeting that Arthur Campbell proposed that either the deponent or Aaron Lewis should offer as Candidates at the insuing election, and accordingly said Lewis stood a pole. The deponent further saith that he never heard Arthur Campbell wish for a new State in an irregular way, but wish'd to petition the Assemby of Virginia and the Continental Congress, and also saith that s'd Arthur Campbell, in the foregoing instances, was acting as a private citizen and not as a Justice of the peace, and further said, on being interrogated, that s'd Arthur Campbell bore the character of understanding the Law very well and administered Justice agreeably thereto, &c.

Certified under our hands and seals agreeable to notice, this eighteenth day of May, 1786, at Washington Court House.

JOHN KINKEAD,
JOHN LATHIM,
JAMES FULKERSON.

THE DEPOSITION OF ELISHA DUNGAN, May 18th

Taken under order of April 5th, 1786, deposeth and saith: Washington county

That Arthur Campbell never advised him not to pay Tax, but rather advised him to pay. The Deponent further saith that Arthur Campbell advised him and others to send members to the Gen'l Assembly, and the deponent Further saith that he saw a petition to the Governor and Assembly, Requesting a new state. The deponent Further Saith that he look'd upon Arthur Campbell to be acting as a private citizen, and Further saith that he never new Campbell to act contrary to law as a magistrate, nor never heard of it. And Further saith not.

THE DEPOSITION OF GEORGE FINLEY, &C.

That in the month of June, '85, at Mrs. Smith's House, in the Town of Abingdon, Mr. David Watson, ask'd Arthur Campbell what would be done

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1786. May 18th about paying their Tax. Arthur Campbell reply'd he did not know what would be done, for money was Exceedingly scarce, and was afraid that people would be distress'd. Mr. Watson s'd if he could sell a Cow for half the value, or any of his property, he could pay his Tax. Arthur Campbell made answer if he could sell for one-third the value he might spare that much property to pay his Tax. The deponant Further saith that Arthur Campbell s'd he had been lucky enough to rais as much money as would pay his Tax, but was of opinion, from the scarcity of money, there was not one man in Ten in his neigborhood had money to pay their Tax. The deponent Further saith he never heard Arthur Campbell advise any person not to send members to the Gen'l Assembly, and Further saith he hard Arthur Campbell declare himself publickly an advocate for a new state, as soon as the county or old state was ripe for a devition, and Further saith that a new state seem'd to be a Bug-Bear to some people and a stoking Horse of opposition, but for his part he did not Wish to force it untill it could be obtain'd in a legal manner by Petition to the Assembly and through the Assembly to Congress. The deponent Further saith, in July (Washington Court), '85, he heard Arthur Campbell say, standing by the Clark's Table, that he did not apprehend that the Court was obleedg'd to swear in the officers at that time, and wish'd the matter to be postponed untill the August Court, untill such times as the Governor Could be Inform'd of the nature of the Case. The deponant Further saith he look'd upon Arthur Campbell to be then acting as a private citizen, and not as a Justice of the peace. The deponant Further saith he never knew or heard of Arthur Campbell's malpractices as a magistrate, but heard numbers of persons say he was the ablest magistrate that sat upon the Bench. And Further saith not.

Certified under Our hands and seals agreeably to Notice given at Washington Court House, this 18th day of May, 1786.

JOHN KINKEAD, [Seal.]
JOHN LATHIM, [Seal.]
JOS. BLACK, [Seal.]

May 19th ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO JAMES MONTGOMERY, WM. EDMISTON, &c., &c.

Gent.:

I intend, if necessary, to Continue taking the depositions of the Papers named in my notice, dated the fifth day of this instant, May, at Washington Courthouse, the twenty-ninth, thirtieth, and thirty-first days of this month; also the Depositions of Capt. John Jameson, Col. David Looney, Gilbert Christian, John Anderson, and Major George Maxwell.

Given under my hand May 19th, 1786.

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THE DEPOSITION OF ALEXANDER BRECKENRIDGE, 1786.

Taken before John Kinkead, John Lowry and Joseph Black, Commissioners, &c., Deposeth and Saith: That he never heard Arthur Campbell advise persons chargeable with public Tax to refuse payment thereof. The deponent farther saith, that he never heard Arthur Campbell mention Publickly anything respecting a separation from Virginia, but in private conversation he heard him say when it came with the leave of State and Congress he would be satisfied. The deponent further saith, that he allowed that Arthur Campbell was acting as a private Citizen and not as a Justice of the peace in the foregoing Conversation. The deponent further saith, that he never knew Arthur Campbell guilty of misconduct and malpractice as a Justice of the peace. The deponent further saith not. May 19th Washington county

THE DEPOSITION OF JOSEPH SNODGRASS,

Taken before John Kincead, John Lowry and Joseph Black, Commissioners, &c., &c., Deposeth and Saith: That he knows nothing about Arthur Campbell advising people chargeable with public Taxes to refuse payment thereof. * * * * * * *

THE DEPOSITION OF BENJAMIN SHARP,

Taken, &c., &c., Deposeth and Saith: That he never heard him give any such advise as to induce persons chargeable with Public Taxes to refuse payment thereof. * * * * * * *
That at a meeting of the inhabitants of Washington County at sinking spring meeting house in February, 1785, when he gave particular attention to the conversation and debates that happened, and that he does not Remember to hear Arthur Campbell say that he would take up his musket and fight till he would die, rather than pay Taxes. And the deponent further saith, that he heard Arthur Campbell read the Estimation of Accompts, which operated as Taxes in the Western Country (to wit), The composition money, Additional Tax upon Land of five shillings per hundred, and the sixth part of surveyor's fees, &c. And The Deponent further saith, that he never heard Arthur Campbell advising freeholders not to Elect members to serve in the General Assembly. The Deponent further saith, that perhaps he heard Arthur Campbell say that he thought a separation would be more convenient for this Country than to be connected with the Commonwealth of Virginia, but never heard him express a desire to obtain such separation by any other means than by petitioning the Legislature. And the Deponent further saith, that he considered Arthur Campbell in the foregoing cases not acting officially as a magistrate but as a private citizen of the Commonwealth. And he further saith, that he never knew Arthur Campbell guilty of malpractices and misconduct, and that he ever bore the character of a magistrate of good abilities. The Deponent further saith not.

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1786. THE DEPOSITION OF JOHN LATHIM,

May 19th Taken before John Kincaed, John Lowry and Jos. Black, &c., &c., deposeth and Saith: That he knew nothing of Arthur Campbell's advising persons Chargeable with public Taxes to refuse payment thereof. And the Deponent further saith, that on July, Washington Court day, that William Russell came into Court to swear into Commission. Arthur Campbell, then on the bench, asked him what Commission, and thereupon William Russell handed him a paper, call'd the Governor's proclamation, and after reading on it some time, he stept down off the bench and desired the Judge not to be too hassty in taking the opinion of the Court until the Court was more full, and afterwards there was a number of members called into Court. William Russell insisted very hard to swear in, because the frontiers were likely to suffer for want of officers. Arthur Campbell replied, that there was as much done in that case as possibly could be done, he thought, and after a great deal of discourse passing between the two, Arthur Campbell desired that it should be postponed until the August Court, until such times as the minds of the people could be taken in general throughout the County, and if it was the desire of the people at large he had no objections, but submitted freely, for he did not wish to wear a Commission under the Law, or Contrary to the desire of the People in general. Said Deponent being Interogated Whether he heard said Arthur Campbell say that the Militia Law was arbitrary, tyrannical and oppressive, answered, that he did not remember such expressions, but that he remembers to hear s'd Campbell say that it was obnoxious, And that the proclamation was no Law. William Russell made answer, and Said it sufficient to enforce a Law. The Deponent further saith, That if he had been in said Arthur Campbell's situation he would have retired off the bench also—The said Deponent being a member of the Court, and sat on the bench during the above transactions— * * * * * * * *
That Arthur Campbell did not vote or give his opinion as a magistrate, and that he had never known an instance of his being guilty of misconduct as a Justice of the peace.

Certified to by

JOHN KINKEAD, [Seal.]
JOHN LOWREY, [Seal.]
JOS. BLACK, [Seal.]

May 20th THO. ARTHUR TO GOV. HENRY,

Franklin county Opposing the appointment of Hugh Inness, Col. Commanding of that County, on the ground of his age, his being inactive, and never shew'd his Friendship to the Commonwealth in our last War, and have generally

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been suspected to disaffection, and certainly not without a very Just cause. * * * * * * * * 1786. May 20th

A large majority of the Militia and old Officers with myself conceive, shou'd he meet with his appointment, it might be attended with bad consequences: I hope his Excellency, for the great Trust repos'd in him for the Ease and benefit of his Subjects, will take it under consideration, &c.

JOSEPH HORNSBY TO GOV. HENRY, May 22d

Advising him of his having drawn on the Treasurer for £200, under Authority of the Directors of the Hospital for the reception of Idiotts, Lunatics and Persons of Insane Mind, to be forwarded to him by Mr. James Galt, &c. Williamsburg

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GEORGIA—IN COUNCIL.

Augusta, 23 May, 1786.

Ordered, That His Honor, the Governor, make immediate application to His Excellency, the Governor of Virginia, for the loan of Five Hundred stand of arms, Five Hundred Dragoon Swords and accoutrements, and that He pledge the faith of the State that a Return thereof to the place from whence the Same be taken be made, on the termination of the present disturbances between this State and the Indians.

Extract from the minutes.

G. HANDLY,
Sec'y, E. C.

EDW'D TELFAIR TO THE GOV'R OF VIRGINIA. May 27th

Sir:

The Commonwealth in which your Excellency presides, having, on all occasions, displayed every patrocination to any of her sister States when required, have induced the Executive of this State to enter into the inclosed Order, upon which the present communication is founded. Georgia Augusta

The Savage depredations that have of late taken place on our western frontier, and the want of a sufficient supply of arms, &c., to give full energy to defensive measures, I hope will plead a forcible excuse for the liberty taken on the present occasion.

I have the honor to be your Excellency's
most obed't, h'ble Serv't.

BILL OF LADING May 29th

And certificate of military Inspector given for the arms ordered by the State of Virginia, &c. Tulle, France

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1786. THE DEPOSITION OF JOHN KINKEAD, &C., &C.

May 30th Washington Courthouse

Who Deposeth and sayth the Respecting the first charge he knows nothing. Respecting the second charge, the said Deponant sayeth he knows nothing further than that he asked Arthur Campbell, in Smith's Tavern, in the year 1785, if he meant to stand a poll at the Ensuing Elections? S'd Campbell replied he believed not, until he did in Frankland State. Immediately a dispute arose between Arthur Campbell, John Berry, and James Montgomery, who was then present, about State affairs, which appeared to be in Jest. * * * * * *

In answer to the fourth charge, said Deponant sayeth that he came into the Courthouse on the first Day of the July Court, in the year 1785, Colonel Campbell was then standing on the floor and General Russell also, in a warm Dispute. Deponant sayeth he went on the Bench and asked the reason of the Dispute. Gen'l Russell Immediately handed him a Commission from the Governor, and desired to be Qualified to it. Colonel Campbell replied he wished the court carefully to Examine into the matter. Gen'l Russell Replied there was no need for much consideration about it, for there was the Field officers' Commissions and the Governor's Proclamation to enforce the militia Law. Col. Campbell Replied the Governor's Proclamation was no Law. Gen'l Russell said it was sufficient to Enforce a law. Col. Campbell said it was uncertain whether it was the Governor's Proclamation or not, as it was not in Print. Said Campbell further said he had been Lieutenant in the County ever since it took place, and never had been guilty of any misconduct that he had been call'd to account for, and did not know the Reason why he should be superceded, unless it was through some misrepresentaton. General Russell replied it was in consequence of the new militia Laws taking place. Colonel Campbell replied that he did not know that such a strict regard ought to be paid to that Proclamation untill it was farther Enquired into, as it was Issued contrary to Law and not being in print. And said Deponant further sayeth that Col. Campbell wished the Court not to proceed into Judgement hastily, but postpone the Decission until the August Court untill application could be made to the Executive, and untill the nature of the new militia Law could be fully explained to the people at Large, and then, if it was their choice to live under it, then let them take it in the name of God, for he would submit freely to it and take his musquet on his shoulder and fall into the Ranks as well as other men. Said Deponant further sayth that Gen'l Russell replied that the Frontiers might suffer for the want of officers. Col. Campbell answered that the former officers who had acted would continue to serve, and the militia would be readier to Do Duty under the old Law or former officers than the new. He had never heard Col. Campbell say the militia Law was arbitrary and tyrannical. Being interogated if he would have kept his seat on the Bench if he had been in Col. Campbell's place, said he would not, as he wou'd not wish to sit Judge in his own case; and being further interrogated, sayeth that he considered Arthur Campbell

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acting as a private citizen and not in Execution of his office as a Justice of the peace, and further sayeth that said Campbell did not give his vote in the matter, but left the Courthouse, and that he never knew any instance of Arthur Campbell's malpractice in Execution of his office—that he had been intimately acquainted with Arthur Campbell since the year 1774. And said Deponent being interrogated, sayeth that James Thomson, one of the complainants, on appearing to give his Evidence against said Campbell, said none of the complainants wou'd have wish'd to give Evidence in the case, if had not been for an official letter from the Governor; and at another time said it was a particular Letter from the Governor. And further sayeth not. 1786. May 30th

Certified under our hands and seals the 30th day of May, 1786.

JAS. FFULKERSON, [Seal.]
JOHN LOWREY, [Seal.]
JOSEPH BLACK, [Seal.]

THE DEPOSITION OF JOSEPH BLACK TAKEN, &C., &C. May 30th

He never heard said Campbell advise persons against Electing members to the General Assembly, but he recommended to the deponent Colonel Aaron Lewis and Mathew Willoughby for candidates. He had heard Arthur Campbell say that it would be to the advantage of the western Country to be seperate from Virginia, and said Deponant further saith that the said Arthur Campbell produced to him a newspaper, wherein the Resolves of Congress was respecting the Boundaries of new States, and gave his opinion where he thought the lines would run; and said Deponant further saith, that the said Campbell did not wish to be joined with the Kentucky, but said if the people in the western part of North Carolina would conduct matters Regularly he would Rather join them; that he did not wish a separation any other way than by Petitioning the Assembly of Virginia and memorial to Congress. He did not consider Arthur Campbell as acting as a Justice of the peace in the steps he had taken, but as a private citizen. He had never knew of his having been guilty of malpractice in that office. He further deposed that James Thompson, one of the Complainants, on appearing to give his Evidence against said Campbell, said none of the complainants would have given evidence in the case if it had not of been for an official letter from the Governor, and at another time he said a particular letter. Washington county

Certified under our hands and seals, at the Court house, the 30th day of May, 1786.

JOHN KINKEAD, [Seal.]
JAS. FFULKERSON, [Seal.]
JOHN LOWREY, [Seal.]

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1786. *To his Excellency the Governor of Virginia,*
May 31st *and the honorable the Council of State:*

THE MEMORIAL OF ARTHUR CAMPBELL

Arthur Campbell's memorial

Sheweth: That conscious of the purity of his intentions, and the inoffensiveness of his transactions in 1785, he, last April, waved his undoubted privilege of *viva voce* testimony being produced against him before your hon'ble Board in June next—That he should not have waved such a benefit had it not been for the apparent sense of the Board in April last, and in confidence that the same rule for admiting evidence would be adopted before the Commissioners appointed to take depositions, as are always adhered to in the Court of Law—That such rules have been disregarded, and persons admitted to swear, who are parties in the dispute, and others interested, and not creditable Witnesses—That as all your Memorialist's conversation complained of happened at public places, where were a large number of the inhabitants generally assembled, several of whom must have heard what words were spoken, as well as Colo. Russell or any of the avowed complainants—That he has no objection, and it was really his desire to have a number of the most creditable, disinterested persons in the County to say on their oath what they knew of the charges brought against your memorialists. However, he believes there are a sufficient number of such persons already qualified to make the truth appear to your honorable Board, without being obliged to resort to testimony indirectly obtain'd, and coming from such persons under the influence of passions as always vitiate testimony in the Court of Law. Your Memorialist therefore prays that none of the Depositions taken before the Commissioners in Washington County, dated the third, fourth, and fifth days of this instant, may be admitted against him, because, however secure, he may now conclude himself from the attack of malice. Yet the precedent would be a dangerous one, and might one day return on the heads of those who now are so passionately anxious for the destruction of one who have really done the public no wrong.

And your Memorialist shall pray, &c.

ARTHUR CAMPBELL.

May 31st, 1786.

May 31st

DEPOSITION OF ROBERT CRAIG,

Washington county

Taken, &c., under order of April 5th, 1786. * * *
And the Deponent further Saith: That at July Court, 1785, he was sent for to come into Court, and when he came in, saw Arthur Campbell standing on the floor, and after the said deponent, taking his seat on the bench, Colo. Russell produced to the bench a Commission, which he was desirous of swearing into. Arthur Campbell wished the bench to consider the matter maturely first. Col. Russell told the Court they could

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not get over Swearing the Officers into this Commission, as there was the Governor's Proclamation enforcing the new Militia Law in this County. A member of the Court was desirous of seeing the proclamation, upon which it was handed to the Court, when Arthur Campbell raised some objections against it, as it was an unusual manner in which it came; but, however, Colo. Russell still insisted to swear into the Commissions, urging that there was a necessity for swearing into them, as the frontier was in danger of being harassed by the Indians. Arthur Campbell made answer, that every necessary measure had been taken for the defence of the frontiers, and said that the Officers which had acted would not neglect doing every duty for the frontiers in their power until the August Court, which was the longest time he wanted; that the then Officers which was to swear into their Commissions should be opposed, if nothing was done in the Executive favourable to the old Officers, for he was certain he said there had been some misrepresentation went to the Executive, or they never would have thrown out Officers that had never been called to an account for any misconduct. He likewise further said, that he would leave it to the choice of the people, which could be known against the August Court; and if the new Militia Law was the choice of a majority of the people, he would be heartily agreed, and could shoulder his musket as well as any of them; and then the said Arthur Campbell retired out of the house, and he does not remember of his returning into the house that day. He considered Arthur Campbell as acting as a private citizen merely, in his course, and had never known of his having been guilty of misconduct as a Justice of the Peace, &c. 1786. May 31st

The deponent being Interrogated, what Information did James Montgomery give, one of the days of the last Court respecting his reasons and motives for accusing Arthur Campbell for malpractices in his office as Justice of the peace? Answers, on Wednesday, the 2d day of Court, in conversation with James Montgomery, said Montgomery often urged that he had been ill used by Arthur Campbell, and particularly for that Judgment which was obtained against him for holding a false Election in 1785, and for not getting Justice in recommendations. As a Militia officer, the said Deponant observed that no Judgment was yet obtained against him in Court, but he still insisted there was, and he blamed no other man but Arthur Campbell for it; and s'd Deponent asked s'd Montgomery why he and Arthur Campbell had so many disputes, as they were once good friends, and why they might not cordially drop these disputes and commence good friends again? Said Montgomery answered, that he had been willing to be good friends with him, but it was too late now, and if it had not been purely out of *ambition* and *revenge*, he never would have rais'd a charge against Colo. Campbell.

And being further Interrogated, If what he heard him say, in his opinion, was in a dispute depending before this Court or relative to the charges now depending before the Executive? The said Deponent answered, That he understood it to be that which lay before the Executive. Being

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1786. May 31st — further Interrogated, if he thought James Montgomery was in his proper senses, or if he thinks he was disguised with Liquour at the time they had this conversation? The Deponent answers, that he drank share of a quart bowl of whiskey grog, and seem'd as if he had been drinking freely before; but s'd Deponent cannot say he was drunk, although he express'd himself very noisy, but as sensible as usual. And this Deponent further saith not.

May 31st

WM. ROSE, K. P. JAIL, TO THE GOVERNOR,

City Jail — In relation to the necessity of repairs to the Public Jail. He thinks that Oak Posts, of 12 or 14 feet long, would be the best security to prevent Escapes. The floors and Sleepers are rotten, and should be relaid at once. He can do the entire work for 25 or 30£s, with his own Hands and the runaways in Jail in the short space of six Days. The oak posts were intended for a palisade around the premises. Prisoners had made a breach in the walls, the bricks of which are laid in Sand rather than in mortar, which was wet, having been built only a fortnight, &c., &c.

May 31st

THOS. JEFFERSON TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

Paris — I Have communicated to Congress this day a copy of the resolutions of a Committee appointed here for the purpose of considering what may be done to improve the commerce between this country and U. S., together with a copy of the contract between the Farmers general and Mr. Morris, to which those resolutions refer. These resolutions have received the sanction of government, and been officially communicated to me. As the subject is peculiarly and principally interesting to the States of Maryland and Virginia, and prompt notice is above all things necessary, to prevent individual merchants from monopolizing this year's benefit, I have thought it my duty to communicate, by different conveyances to the Governors of each of those States, copies of the resolutions and contract, that their citizens may have as early notice of them as possible.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the highest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble Serv't.

June 1st

THIS DAY JAMES KINCANON MADE OATH

Before me, a justice of the peace for Washington County, on the holy Avengelist of Almighty God, that he heard Joseph Black interogated by the Complainants against Arthur Campbell. S'd Black said he heard s'd Campbell, on the 16th of May, 1786, say neither the commis-

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sioners or witnesses were under obligations to take depositions or give testimony, except they chose to do it under the order from the Executive, and on the 31st of the same month s'd Kincanon was present when the Commissioners eraised that part of his deposition on Arthur Campbell's saying it had not a right to be inserted. 1786. June 1st

Sworn to Before me, June the 1st, 1786.

WM. EDMISTON.

WILLIAM EDMISTON, JAS. KINCANON, SAMUEL EDMISTON, AND JAS. THOMPSON, COMMISSIONERS, TO GOV'R HENRY. June 2nd

Sir:

Agreeable to the second order from your Excellency to take depositions in behalf of the State against Arthur Campbell, we have proceeded, And on the 18th day of April, being the day of Washington Election, we gave him notice to attend at the Courthouse, the third, fourth, and fifth, fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth, twenty-fifth, twenty-sixth, and twenty-seventh days of May. Alle the commissioners attended on the third of May, when information in behalf of Mr. Campbell, through his brother, John Campbell, was made to the *Comm'rs* that he should not attend the meeting, and gave for reasons he was backward in his spring crops, had the whooping-cough in his family, and lastly the notice was illegal. The Commissioners, after some deliberation, unanimously agreed to proceed and continuing the business during the first three days of notice, took sundry depositions, as will appear by the signature of the *Comm'rs*, the time and place of taking them; which depositions, we are informed, are taken to Richmond by John Latham. On the fifthteenth we again attended to take depositions, and had several witnesses present, when Mr. Campbell appeared and objected to the notice given him, alledging it was illegal, as it did not contain the names of the witnesses to be examined against him. He produced to the Comm'rs the Act for establishing the high Court of Chancery and Gen'l Court to support his objection to the notice, which appeared to us only to respect suitors litigant with persons residing out of the Commonwealth, and not expedient under the order from the Executive.

Be that as it may, his influence was sufficient, with three magistrates out of four, being all that were present the fifteenth and sixteenth—to give from under hands that the notice was illegal, and refused then proceeding on the business in behalf of the complainants, which lost us the testimony of sundry witnesses then present, and all summoned, some of whom attended—near thirty, others near forty miles. And two of the Comm'rs, Ward and Cowan, living in Russell County, a considerable distance from Washington Courthouse, could not attend oftener than the first three days, and a majority of the other comm'rs refusing to act when the witnesses attended, we failed in the depositions of Capt. Henry Smith and Benj. John, the former having heard Mr. Campbell advise the people of Washington, at March Court, 1785, to send no Delegates to the General Assem-

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1786. June 2nd

bly. And in presence of the latter said he would not return taxable property for that year, with sundry others who heard his sentiments in opposition to the collection of taxes. In fact, sir, Mr. Campbell has again attempted every possible obstruction to prevent the necessary operations in obedience to the orders from the hon'bl. Executive; he foreseeing the first three days of taking depositions was the only prospect of the comm'rs being all present on the business, failed in his attendance; and when he attended he openly, in the presence of the Comm'rs and the witnesses, declared that under the power from the Executive the Comm'rs were not obliged to take the depositions or the witnesses to attend, and he having a majority of the Comm'rs then present to reject our notice and to take depositions under his, we have failed in that equality of Justice intended by the order from your hon'ble board.

But, sir, notwithsanding every equivocation of Mr. Campbell, we are inclined to hope sufficient legal testimony is taken at present, together with the letters in Mr. Campbell's own hand, now in possession of your hon'ble board, to support the charge against him. And if legally taken, we are desirous to rest the Issue thereof to the determination of your Excellency, and the hon'ble, the privy Council, immediately, that through your wisdom it may be decided whether the information against him have, according to his insinuations, been by us unjustly founded, or be sufficient testimony to support the charges.

And here it may be necessary to observe that the above contents of this letter, respecting Mr. Campbell's advice to the Comm'rs and Witnesses, was proven in Joseph Black's deposition (one of the Comm'rs) on the 30th day of May, and on the 31st eraised, through the advice of Mr. Campbell, when only one of the complainants was present, who was overruled in his objection to the measure, as will appear by his affidavit. Should your Excellency, and the hon'ble, the privy Council, find any defect in the present proceedings by the parties, we hope we may be once more indulged in a further hearing, in which case we beg leave to suggest the propriety of appointing Commissioners (to take the depositions), who reside below the Blue Ridge, who will most likely proceed impartially), and we hope the hon'ble executive will point out some mode for the notice and taking the evidence. * * * * *

[Here the document has evidently been mutilated on purpose by tearing the lower part of the sheet entirely off. Then follow these words]:

"Unless the hon'ble Executive should think proper to summon the Parties and Witnesses to attend personally before your hon'ble board, which we think would be the most certain mode to procure facts, which we can be informed of by Capt. Montgomery, one of the complainants,"

We are, Sir,

Your Excellency's most ob't Serv'ts, &c., &c., &c.

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AT A MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS, 1786.

Authorized by a Decree of Council, bearing date April 5th, 1786, to take depositions respecting sundry charges exhibited against Arthur Campbell by Jas. Montgomery, William Edmiston, Jas. Kincannon, Saml. Edmiston Jas. Thompson and Arthur Bowan, complainants, and upon the law being produced to us, directing the mode of notifying parties for taking depositions, are of opinion that the notification given to Arthur Campbell for taking Depositions on the third, fourth and fifth, fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth, twenty-fifth, twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh days of May, was not legal, as the names of the Witnesses was not mentioned in the notification. June 2nd

Given under our hands this 16th day of May, 1786.

[A Copy.] JNO. KINCADE,
JNO. LOWRY,
J. THOMPSON. JOS. BLACK.

Certified to by James Thompson, before Wm. Edmiston, Justice of the Peace, 2nd day of June, 1786.

AN ANONYMOUS LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE EXECUTIVE, June 3d

And signed Thirteen Friends, suggesting certain modes of raising revenue by taxation for the year 1787, as follows: Virginia

Instead of 2½ p'r Cent., let the Duty be 7½ p'r Cent. *ad valorum* upon the cost of the goods, to be paid at the end of six months, in the present circulating paper medium of this State. This would raise the paper into high estimation, and give it a free circulation through all hands, from the demands the merchants would have for it; and it would very speedily arrive at the same degree of Rank as a Tob'o note, and would, of course, go amongst the planters for half cash and half goods from the merchants in all quarters, &c., whereas, at present, its free circulation is only faintly aimed at by its paying 2s. 3d. Taxes, in place of cash.

I think it evidently appears, that if this channell for its circulation was once open'd, that unknown utility would result from the mode, and effectually not only give it a circulation and confidence, even unto all Ranks of people, but stop the present difficulty and general cry for specie; and knowing well that the paper medium of all Countrys hinges in a large proportion upon its commerce, and that commerce again depending upon the validity and Laws of the Country, I freely move this New Tax upon the above principles:

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1786. June 3d

New Tax 7½ p'r Cent., to commence 1st Jan'y, 1787, declaring it Death to imitate, personate, or Counterfiet the Paper to be received. In payment upon £400,000 it will yield £30,000. * * *

Another source, from whence a relief might be drawn, is upon Wills, Deeds and Conveyances. Let an Office be established at Richmond, where Books of Record shall be kept for the duely entering and recording the said mention'd papers, and when done, a certificate, with an Official Seal, certifying the validity of the same, and lawfull entering thereof. I would propose the following Taxes upon these classes, as being both easy, light and eligible:

400 Wills,	@ 10£ each.....	£ 4,000		
800 Deeds,	@ 6.	4,800		
600 Conveyances,	@ 4.	2,400		
				11,200

Upon wills none could refuse to pay £10. for recording a will, to give it its lawfull effects. By so doing, and forever after, have recourse to the Office for a copy, in case of being lost or mislaid.

As to Deeds and Conveyances, same as Wills; but in case of Copys being wanted, in the event of the originals being lost or mislaid, they shall be paid for at the rate of one Guinea for each (wills excepted); but recourse may be had to the reading of them gratis, upon paying the cheif clerk 5s. I would propose a tax upon a Certificate on the Back of the Register of every Vessell sold within the State. The naval Seal of Office should be affixed thereto, and a Register, &c., &c., should be kept at the office for that purpose, for which should be paid for every and each Transfer of Vessell or Vessells upon a Certificate, the sum of £3.; this would yield upon 200 Vessells £600. * * * *

Another Tax I would propose, is 1s. p'r Ton on all Vessells coming from Europe and Coastways, for the purpose of erecting a Light House and beacons at Cape Henry. No person could think hard of this Tax, it being meant and intended for the general and publick good of all Countrys.

Tax 1s. p'r Ton, pay'ble at the naval office in one month, which upon 40,000 Ton @ 1s., £2,000.

As Tobacco is a Staple Commodity of this Country, from whence other Countrys reaps the principal use of, both in use, and likewise affording a large revenue to the State, I do not see why the shippers of that article should not pay a Duty on the exportation thereof in order to assist in liquidating a Foreign debt, and to encourage and afford a bounty upon the exportation of Cotton, the growth of this State. I would move for a Tax upon every and each Hhd. of Tobacco of 13s. 6d. p'r hhd., payable at the end of three months in Crop Tob'o at the Jas. River Warehouses, to be Sold every six months at a publick and convenient place for that purpose, to raise Cash for the same.

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Upon 25,000 Hhds., Shipp'd from the State of Virginia, @ 12s. 6d. p. hhd., is £15,625. 1786. June 3d

Deduct Bounty allowed on Cotton, the growth of the State of Virginia, only, Say for every bag or Bale weig'g n'tt 200 lbs., shall be allow'd 2d. p. lb., and the Certificate or note of its weight shall express and unto the Bearer ———, on 100,000 lbs. @ 2d., or 500 Bales of 200 lbs. n'tt @ 33s. 4d. p. Bale, 833. 6. 8, £14,791. 13. 4.

This Surplus of £14,791. 13s. 4d. is sufficient to answer not only the annual Bounty, but help in liquidating the Foreign debt; and I am happy in knowing that I have a vast many people of my opinion that the proportion of Tobacco made is by far too great. Was less made, a more equitable and steady price would be got, as well as proving more satisfactory unto the people. However, they have been so long used to the making of it, that they have not strove to make any Cotton, either from neglect or a want of knowledge of a vent for the commodity of Cotton. I am clearly of opinion that this bounty held forth would be the means of answering a number of solid services to the People and State.

Another source, from whence I see no reason of just cause why a fund should not be raised from, and that is a Tax upon all British Merchants not Citizens of the State. I would move a Tax on all such of £4. p'r annum, and £1. 10s. per Annum upon all young men or Book-keepers serving them. It is but equitable that as they live in our Country they should share a part of our burthens, and support the Government of a State they are protected by:

Upon 1,200 merchants,	@	£4.....	£4,800
Upon 2,400 clerks,	@	30s.....	3,600
			8,400

The foregoing Taxes, amounting to £66,991. 13. 4d., is humbly submitted unto the Governor and Councill of the State of Virginia by one who is a friend and well-wisher unto the Commonwealth.

JOS. NEVILL TO GOV. HENRY. June 3d

Sir:

Colo. Francis Deakings and myself has been out a Viewing and Laying off the Road over the Allegania mountain, to be cut by this State and the State of Maryland, and is now preparing to open the same. We have agreed to draw £500 from each State, which, we think, will be sufficient for the first opening. * * * * * You will please to furnish Mr. Vanmeter, the bearer hereof, with the same. Hardy county

I am sir, your most

obedient, Humb. Serv't, &c., &c.

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1786. BOLLING STARK TO THE GOVERNOR,

June 4th Richmond — Making application to be appointed Collector of Customs, under the new law of Congress, for the Port of Norfolk. He prefers that place particularly, in order that he should enjoy the inexpressible pleasure of being visited by my children, several of them having fixed their residence at that place, and adds: "The new law will be carried into execution about the time of my dismission from the publick service, an Event I have very often looked forward to with infinite concern and regret, but which he will consider a fortunate circumstance if he can secure this place," &c.

June 7th L. WOOD, JR., SOLICITOR,

Richmond Solicitor's office — Enclosing to the Governor the Report of Andrew Dunscomb, Commissioner to settle the accounts of State of Virginia with the United States for expenditures incurred during the late war with Great Britain. The statement of the late Commissioner, Zepheniah Turner, and that of the undersigned, Andrew Dunscomb, had been compared with the Receipt Book of the Commonwealth's Treasurer, and found to agree in amount—viz: "Expenditures from the 13th September, 1775, to the first of September, 1777, amounting, as per additions under the several Heads, to the sum of £303,853, 1sh. 2¾ specie, or so deemed; from the first day of September, 1777, to the 31st December, 1780, to the sum of £5,669,192. 8. 3¾, nominal, to be reduced to specie value, at the decision of the Honorable Congress.

In addition to this amount, sums of money advanced to individuals yet unadjusted, and the aggregate of specific tax, prevented from being stated by the destruction of the Books and papers of the offices by the British in 1781, are to be considered. An officer had been appointed by the State to settle up all arrears of this nature, by whom these expenditures will be investigated, &c.

June 9th REV. BENJ. BLAGROVE TO JAQUELIN AMBLER, ESQ'R., TREASURER.

Dear Sir:

Martin's Brandon Glebe — On my arrival at Home from the Convention I found my Family under the Pressure of Affliction, several of them struggling with that disagreeable Epidemic the Scarlet Fever. Two of my children, I think, have got over it. Miss Pelham has been in a critical situation, so as to stand in need of the Aid of a Physician, and Mrs. Blagrove is how labouring under some of the painful Symptoms of the Disorder. I hope she will do well, but my Fears are much alarmed for the tender Infant at the Breast, and there are several more of the Family who must, of necessity, continue in the way of the Contagion. You well know my Sensibility;

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perhaps I bear misfortunes with too little Fortitude. You can and do feel for the unhappy, and however troublesome and unsuccessful my Application may be to the Governor for some small Assistance in this Hour of Trouble from some pecuniary in the Treasury, I nevertheless flatter myself you will oblige me by calling on him on your way to the office and in my name ask the Grant of a few Guineas, to be sent by the Bearer, in Part of a Quarter's Salary as Ordinary at the Prison, due, according to the Tenure of my appointment, I think, on Wednesday next. It is true it will be a kind of anticipation, but I trust my peculiar situation—with only a few shillings in the House, and the neighbours afraid to come to my Habitation for fear of taking the Infection—will justify my making this Request. I have sent you a few Lettuce Seed, of a very particular kind, well worthy, in my opinion, of your Cultivation. I pray you to present my most affectionate Respects to Mrs. Ambler and Mrs. Brent, and to Mr. Buchanan, and be assured I am gratefully sensible of my obligations to you and yours. 1786. June 9th

And am your sincere Friend, &c., &c., &c.

SAM'L BROWN, COUNTY LIEUT., TO GOV. HENRY. June 10th

D'r Sir:

This day I rec'd an Express from Colo. Thos. Lewis at point pleasant, informing that the Indians lately killed a woman on this side Ohio and carried off all the horses Belonging to that place, and that he has reason to Beleive that they will be very Troublesom this summer. He requested me to send 20 or 30 men as a guard to that place, But I thought proper to lay the matter Before you and await your answer. The inhabitants of the Kanaway, at Kelly's, have petitioned me for a guard of men to enable them to rais their corn, as Indians have lately been discovered amongst them. I have ordered 25 men to their Assistance for one month. You will please let me know wheather they are to Be continued or call'd home, as provistions is Hard to be got hear. Should it Be y'r pleasure, Sir, that men should be allow'd The inhabitants of the Kanaway, I would think it highly necessary we should be furnish'd with some cash to purchase provitions. Should it appear Reasonable to you, the Bearer of this, Mr. Wm. Arbuckle, will be a safe hand to Bring it. Greenbriar

I am, S'r, y'r ob't Serv't, &c., &c.

ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO COL. JOSEPH MARTIN. June 10th

Sir:

I am not a little grieved at the report that your son William is kill'd on his way to Georgia by the Creeks. That Capt. Amis and his whole company, except a woman, are killed near Chickamogga, and that the whole of the Americans settled at post Vincennes, on the Wabash, are massacred. On Cumberland and Kentucky, predatory parties visit them, Washington county

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1786. June 10th — sometimes killing a few persons. Last week Tom Walling's son was shot at near the House by three Indians, a ball touched him slightly, and he made his escape. The whole family is since moved over to Big Creek. The first stroke that happens in the valley will, no doubt, break up one if not all the stations there. The people seem to have no confidence in the Commanding officer of Russell County, and those in particular in powell's valley lament both the misfortune of a division of the County as well as the incapacity of the Commander in the new County, and it is more than probable if the Indians pays a few more visits to Clinch this Summer, but that settlement will be in the greatest consternation and many of them fly off. If peace had continued whilst our unhappy disputes continued, no great evil might have happen'd; but if war happens, as is now too apparent, the mistaken policy of last year will be sensibly felt. The lives of innocent persons are a serious matter. Can you devise any means with government that some effectual plan of defence may be adopted, especially for Powell's valley, whom you know is the most exposed? Besides if that settlement is broke up it will greatly interrupt the communication to Kentucky. Nothing can be done in this County until government treat people exactly in the same manner as in other Counties in the State, and I am pretty certain that every movement for defence on Clinch will be feeble and confused under the direction of such a person as Barnet.

I think the times aught to make you look over any neglect or ill-usage you have received, and I am sure if you will accept the command of the new County, which is your right, a large number of the respectable Inhabitants would petition government for you to have the command. Excuse this freedom; I intended never to have said a word had it not been the calls of humanity, which I cannot resist.

I am, sir, with Esteem,

Your very humble Serv't &c., &c.

June 12th — Ampthill

ARCHIBALD CARY TO GOV. HENRY,

In behalf of the survivors of the late sheriff, Mr. Branch. Having been killed suddenly by a fall from his horse, the collection of the Taxes had unfortunately been delayed, as by this accident both principal and deputies were thrown out of office. He therefore prays for a stay of Judgement from the Gen'l Court until the late Mr. Branch's sons can arrange for a settlement.

June 20th — Nelson county

WM. MCCLUNG TO HON. SAMPSON MATHEWS.

He desires to get a Licence to practice Law in the State of North Carolina, but under the laws of that State it requires a recommendation from the Governor and Council of the State in which the party lives, or a residence their for twelve months. He therefore takes the liberty of requesting his aid in procuring the recommendation.

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Col. Levi Todd to Gov. Henry.

1786.

June 22d
Fayette county

The extreme distance from the seat of Government, and the few good opportunities of safe conveyance, rendered it difficult to maintain a regularly organized Militia, especially in the unsettled state of the Country and the rapid increase in population. To remedy this, a number of Blank Commissions should be sent, to be used as occasion should require. Since Col. Boone's removal, he had made every effort to regulate the militia. He cannot make an accurate return, but the number, exclusive of officers, is about 1,100. Something should be done to secure the Lives and property of the Frontier Inhabitants who have suffered this Six months past as much, and were exposed to as many Inroads of the Savages as we did in that length of Time through the whole course of the war (particular actions accepted). And that nothing but regulation and well-laid plans is wanting to put us in a situation to distress them and retaliate at pleasure, without making any application to the Eastern parts of the State. * * * * * * *

I think it probable a Separation will not only shortly take place, tho' I am at a loss to Judge. The Kentucky people appear less unanimous than formerly, and a greater variety of Sentiment prevail. I could therefore wish that the attention of the Legislature and Executive, to the welfare of Kentucky, might not be in any respect withdrawn until we are in a Situation to plan and execute for Ourselves.

I am your Excellency's

Most Obedient and Humble Serv't, &c., &c.

Jos. Martin to Gov. Henry, by Express.

June 25th

Sir:

Smith's River

I have Inclosed to your Excellency a Letter from Colo. Arthur Campbell, also one from William Hord, which Contains greatest part of Intelligence from the westerd, with some additions from Mr. James parberry, who Returned last Evening from Kentuckey. He informs me that a Mr. Ewing, who I am well acquainted with, and beleive to be a man of Varasity, overtook him on new river Directly from Cumberland, and said that Several Days before he left Cumberland a Cheokee Half-breed Came into french-lick and informed that there was a large number of Creeks Imbodied near the Bent of Tennessee, and had laid in a stock of provisions there, and was Determined to Cut of that quarter—that advance parties Had actually arrive there before he left it, and the Setlers Had all forted. He further says that a nother Company Come in before he left new river, who inform'd that the main body of Creeks arrive within a few Days after Mr. Ewing left Cumberland—that they Brought Cannon with them and Canonaded the forts Several Days—that the setlers at

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1786. June 25th

length Turn'd out and faught them—that Several Hundreds was Kill'd and forced to retreat into the garison.

Mr. parberry says the Indians have Done a great Deal of Mischeif on all the frontiers in the Kentucky Country—that it is Certain that the Shonies have Join'd the other Indians. I am truly Distrest on account of the poor Setlers in powel's Valéy. I had possitive orders from Governor Harrison to settle that station, who promised them protection, and without immediate aid I fear they will all be cut off. I am willing to Do anything in my power for them, but as the power is Taken Intirely out of my Hands, I am Totally at a loss what to Do, without your Excellency can point out some method by which I can be serviceable to them.

I shall wait your Excellencie's answer with Great Impatience. If nothing can be Done, I must Brake up the Station Immediately.

I have the Honor to be your Excellencie's
Most Humble and most obedient Ser't, &c., &c.

P. S.—I hope the Express will be paid.

J. M.

June 28th

PR. DE HEYDER VEYDR & CO. TO GOV. HENRY, OF VA.

Philadelphia

Sir:

Mr. Houdon, one of his most Christian Majesty's sculptors, having consigned to us severall of his pieces of Sculpture, with directions to dispose of them, among wich is one Statue in plaister, who represents a skinned human body, he desired to keep it as a present for the honourable states of Virginia. It is said that same peice deserves the admiration of all amateurs.

We beg your honnour to favour us with your instructions and orders, how we are to proceed in the expedition of the said Statue. Your honnour may depend on the exactitude in executing the same.

We are respectfully, Sir,
your very humble and obed't Servants, &c., &c.

June 30th

RESOLUTION OF CONGRESS,

Informing the Executive of Virginia that the United States had ordered their Commandant on the Ohio to detach two Companies to the "rapids of Ohio," with request that the militia of that district be required to co-operate with them in the defence of that Frontier; that Congress have also under deliberation a plan for extending to the Frontier security against the designs of the Indians.

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TO ALL HEAD BOROUGHS AND CONSTABLES 1786.

Within in this Commonwealth to whom these presents shall come: July 4th

Caroline County to-wit: Caroline county

WHEREAS Molly Jones, wife to Lewis Jones, of said County, hath this day made oath before me, Robert Gilchrist, Gent, one of the Commonwealth's justice of the peace for said county, that she, in the absence of her husband, was last night robbed of a purse of money and pocket-book containing several hundred pounds in certificates, by persons unknown, who are since fled for the same and not yet apprehended. Therefore, In the name of the Commonwealth, I charge and command you and every of you in your several precincts to search diligently for the said persons and to make hue and cry after them from town to town and from county to Hue and cry county, as well by horsemen as footmen. And if you shall find the person or persons by whom the said Robbery was committed, or whom you shall have just cause to suspect thereof, that then you shall apprehend and bring him, her, or them before a justice of the peace of the County, when he, she, or they shall be taken, to be dealt with as the Law directs.

Given under my hand and seal this 4 July, 1786.

ROBERT GILCHRIST.

A certain Christopher Myers, a ditcher by trade, is suspected to have been concerned in the above Robbery.

MR. OSTER, FRENCH CONSUL, TO GOV. HENRY (IN FRENCH), July 6th

Informing him of Instructions given by his Government, requiring all vessels bound for any of the French west Indian Ports from ports in the United States, to procure Pasports from the Consols or other Agents of France residing therein; enclosing information also from the "Colony of hispaniola," to the effect that the a drught had so desolated that Colony that provisions could scarcely be gotten, that no planting could be done, and that therefore cargoes of corn, pease, rice, potatoes, and all other provisions could procure satisfactory profits to importers. Williamsburg

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WILLIS WILSON TO GOV. HENRY. July 7th

Sir:

I am this day a spectator of a most daring insult to the laws of this commonwealth. A ship, from accounts of the Searchers, was palpably detected in smuggling goods. Mr. Graves, the Searcher, was repairing on board to make seizure of the ship, when the Captain most audaciously Portsmouth, Va

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1786. July 7th ordered him to keep off, with threats of destruction in case he attempted to board.

Mr. Graves was compell'd to land without executing his duty. The Ship immediately proceeded to get under way, and with the greatest ostentation bid defiance to both Towns by repeated huzzas. Our feelings were not a little hurt, especially when we found it out of our power to give the officer that immediate assistance the case required; for the proceeding was attended with such dispatch, aided with a fair and fresh wind, that every attempt in our wretched, defenceless situation to stop him was fruitless. I fear this may be a great encouragement to the rabble and those disaffected to our laws.

The good people of this Town, Sir, look up to your Excellency, and most ardently beg that your Excellency will be pleased to put them upon such arrangements of defence as they may have it in their power, to support the officers of civil Government in the execution of the laws of the land.

I am your Excellency's

most ob'd't Serv't, &c., &c.

July 8th DEPOSITION OF RALPH BROWN, OF FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA,

Colonel David Rogers' expedition to New Orleans

That he was one of the Company who went to New Orleans in an Expedition on behalf of the State of Virginia with Colo. David Rogers—was with him from the time they left Redstone until his defeat—that they left Redstone about the 20th July, 1778, and that Rogers and his party were defeated by the Indians about the 4th October, 1779.

The Expedition consisted of about forty men, most of whom furnished their own arms, but were supplied with ammunition and provisions by Col. Rogers himself. A quantity of the latter he carried from Redstone, but purchased from the Spaniards on his return. Indeed, Col. Rogers furnished all their provisions, except the game Killed.

He had entirely succeeded in the object of the expedition, viz: to procure goods for the Commonwealth of Virginia, which had been forwarded from New Orleans to the Illinois, where he received them, and was on his return when attacked by the Savages.

July 10th PETITION OF REUBEN VAUGHN,

Mecklenburg county

Sheriff of the County, to be relieved from the execution of a Judgment of the General Court against him for the Balance of taxes for the year 1783, amounting to £663. 0. 3. He had distrained and duly advertised the effects of a great number of Delinquents, which effects had repeatedly been offered for sale, but for want of money there had been no sales, &c.

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BILL OF LADING 1786.

For Fifteen hundred stand of arms, ordered by Mr. Jefferson for the State of Virginia, enclosed to the Governor. July 11th Bordeaux

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LEVI TODD TO GOV. HENRY, July 12th

Acknowledging receipt of instructions from the Executive Council. The Feild Officers should have a meeting at Harrodsburg on the 2d day of August. There was to be an Expedition against the Wabash and White River Indians; but he adds: "'Tis hard to say where we have the greatest number of enemies. Within this three weeks past the whole of the North and West frontier of the District has been struck by small parties. Much mischief has been done in different parts of the District this Summer, and much property lost. I conceive that all our neighboring Indians are just now commencing War avowedly. Much Kentucky Blood I fear will be spilt, tho' I hope that Vigorous Operations the ensuing Fall will make much in our favour. The Wabash Indians have repeatedly said that the Kentucky people dare not march to the Wabash. Our Patience hitherto has much encouraged and increased the Number of our Enemies Necessity compels us now to pursue a different conduct. I fear it will be difficult to get ammunition in Time. Provisions I believe may be procured. There is Plenty in the District. * * * * Fayette county
I am of opinion it would have been very agreeable to the District had Gen'l Clark been commissioned a Gen'l Officer for the present occasion. I doubt whether there is one Copy of the Articles of War which were last in force in the Continental Army now in this District.

I have the Honor to be

Your Excellency's most obedient and H'bl. Servant, &c., &c.

[Circular.] July 12th

NICH'LAS VAN DYKE, GOV. OF DELAWARE, TO THE GOV. OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

Certain Communications from the States of Massachusets, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, proposing a Convention of Commissioners from the several States in the Union for the purpose of considering the Trade of the United States, and forming a System of Commercial Regulations necessary to their common Interest and permanent Harmony, having been laid before the Legislature of this State, I have now the Honor of informing your Excellency of their concurrence with those States in so laudable and useful a measure, and of inclosing you a Copy of their Resolution on that subject. State of Delaware, New Castle

With the greatest Respect, I have the Honor to be

Your Excellency's most obed't humble Servant, &c., &c.

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1786. JOHN BONFIELD TO THE GOV. OF VIRGINIA,

July 13th Bordeaux Informing him he had, by order of Thomas Jefferson, Esq'r, Minister plen., &c., at Paris, shipped on board the Comte d' Artois, bound to Portsmouth, Va., fifty cases, containing thirty stand of arms each. * * They are shipped in good order, and for farther security I have caused the cases to be cover'd first with cloth, tar'd and oil'd; over those straw, and cover'd with a coarse cloth, and cord'd, &c.

July 14th Newport [Circular.]

JOHN COLLINS, GOV. OF STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA,

Enclosing Resolutions passed by the Gen'l Assembly of that State June 1786, appointing Commissioners to meet those chosen by other States of the Union to take into consideration the Trade of the United States—to examine the Relative Situations and Trade of the Said States—to consider how far an uniform System in their Commercial Regulations may be necessary to their Common Interest and permanent Harmony, and to Report to the Several States accordingly.

July 14th Lincoln county JOHN MAY TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

The very interesting Intelligence which we have lately received from Post St. Vencent, induces me once more to trouble your Excellency. The Americans living there have been very much distressed by the Indians ever since last winter, and have every reason to believe that they were encouraged to continue their Hostilities by the French Inhabitants, who have not only refused the Americans any assistance, but would not suffer them to make use of the cannon which were left there for their Defence, at a Fort which they were obliged to build; and when they, the French, were written to on the subject by Gen'l Clarke, they returned for answer that they had nothing to do with the United States, but considered themselves as British subjects and should obey no other Power. I understand that there are British Traders amongst them, who keep up this Idea, and as Congress seems to have totally neglected them, it is not to be wondered at if they should still think themselves under the British Government, especially when they see that the several British Posts, which they were told were to be deliverd up to the Americans, are still in the possession of the British. The Americans were very lately attacked by the Indians, but repulsed them, whereupon Col. Le Gras, or Legrow (for I don't recollect how he spells his name), issued his Proclamation, ordering all the Americans

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to move away immediately. They are now closely confined within their Fort or Houses, and have every Reason to expect the French will assist the Indians against them, and are under the most dreadful apprehensions of being totally cut off. The Wabache Indians are all at war with us, and most of the Shawnees, and put to death, in a most cruel manner, all the Prisoners who are so unfortunate as to fall into their Hands. Since Colo. Logan wrote to you in Aprril, there have been a great many murders committed, and we, every two or three days, hear of fresh murders. There are now Letters here from Post St. Vincent's requesting in the most moving Terms that assistance may be sent the Americans, to enable them to move away, and offering to give up every shilling's worth of Property they possess in order to defray the Expenses of moving them. There had a Party of militia, amounting to about 130 men, marched a few Days before this Intelligence came to Hand, to attack a Party of indians who were encamped on the other side of the Ohio, some Distance below the Falls, but upon Gen. Clarke's receiving the Letter, he sent Expresses after them and requested them to proceed immediately to the Post. This Country had determined to carry on a volunteer campaign ag'st the Indians in August next, but your Instructions have changed the Plan, and they are now preparing for a regular campaign. I find that it is the unanimous opinion of the Inhabitants of this Country that Gen'l Clarke is the properest Person to take the command here, and, notwithstanding the opinion which prevails below, of his not being capable of attending to Business, I am of the same opinion with the Rest of this Country. I have been with him frequently, and find him as capable of Business as ever, and should an Expedition be carried against the Indians I think his name alone would be worth Half a regiment of men. * * * * *
It is not expected that the Troops will be ready to march before the first of September, as the Council of officers will not be held 'till the 2nd of August. * * * * * Col. Logan is acquainted with the contents of this Letter, and has authorized me to say that in case a General officer should be appointed he thinks Gen'l Clarke's abilities and experience entitle him to the appointment.

Y'r very humb. Serv't, &c., &c.

1786. July 14th

DAVID ROSS TO THE EXECUTIVE, July 18th

Applying on behalf of the Directors for the James River Company for all criminals under conditional pardons, to be used as laborers on that work under certain conditions. The Directors to furnish their food and clothing, but the State to continue their guard and quarters at public expence. Petersburg

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1786. JOHN HARVIE TO ———,

July 14th Giving particulars of the arrest in Richmond of John Jones and Wm. Slatter, of North Carolina, for hiring a negro in Mr. Hay's printing office to strike off printed imitations of the Blanks used by that State in the issuing of their military certificates. Stolen types found in their saddle-bags. One of these men, Jones, had confessed to the existence of a conspiracy in N. Carolina to carry on this business on a large scale. Wm. Holt, Wm. Scott. Arthur Long, Littleton Long, and Wm. Johnson, living near Halifax, N. C., one Savage, residing near South Quay in Virginia, had been successfully practicing this forgery. Scott had gone to Philadelphia to procure a large supply of the proper kind of paper, &c.; and Savage was the signer of the papers. This information is given in order that the authorities of N. Carolina may be informed of it, &c.

July 22d THOS. JEFFERSON TO THE GOV'R OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

Paris An opportunity offering, at a moment's warning only, to London, I have only time to inform your Excellency that we have shipped from Bordeaux fifteen hundred stand of arms for the State of Virginia, of which I now inclose the bill of lading. A somewhat larger number of cartouch boxes have been prepared here, are now packing, and will go to Havre, immediately to be shipped thence. As soon as these are forwarded, I will do myself the honour of sending you a state of the expenditures for these and other objects. The residue of the arms and accoutrements are in a good course of preparation.

I have the honor to be, with sentiments of the highest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant, &c., &c.

July 22d SUBSTANCE OF DEPOSITIONS

Fayette county

Expedition of Colonel David Rogers to New Orleans

Taken before Hugh Laughlin, of Thos. Chaffin, relative to Colo. David Rogers' expedition on behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia to New Orleans in ———. He was one of the company of forty men who left Monongalia on the 17th day of July —. Col. Rogers purchased all the provisions used—flour and Bacon. The whole party was armed with rifles. They were in the service of the State from the 17th July — until about the 10th of October of the year following. The party was defeated on the Ohio about the tenth of October, the year after their departure from Redstone. Col. Rogers had also purchased Corn and Beef from the Spaniards; indeed all the provisions consumed by them he had bought, except such as they killed by hunting. Mr. Beckley knew Rogers. Employed

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by the Committee of Safety to procure military stores, powder, &c., in 1776. Difficult to obtain them. Refused supply of money to raise 30 or 40 men, and furnish them. Read letters from Comm. of Safety, and Gen'l Lee and others, to Gov. of N. Orleans. Committee heard of his arrival at New Orleans from him, but nothing further until his defeat. Remembers Col. Rogers stating to the Committee the difficulty and the danger of the expedition; that in case of a successful return a liberal reward was promised him, and in case of death that his family should receive some liberal allowance. 1786. July 22d

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MESSRS. JOSEPH JONES AND CARTER BRAXTON July 24th

Report that they had visited the naval offices at Hampton, Norfolk and York, and find they have been conducted in accordance with the following Heads of Enquiry, viz: Inspection of Naval Stations or Posts

BOND RESPECTING EMBARGOES.

Oath of masters at clearing not to carry out persons removing to defraud their Cred't's, nor servants or slaves not attending their masters or owners.

CERTIFICATES OF DISCHARGING BALAST.

Bonds on granting permits to Trade, not to cut away the bulge, draw the staves, or otherwise deface the Tobacco Casks. Tables of fees in English, French, and Dutch, to be set up in the offices, and manifests of cargo on board at clearing out, and the oath that the commodities to be exported had been inspected, stamped, and —— according to law. The form of Registers, The mode of transferring the Bottom, The Books of Entries and clearances, and to select therefrom a statement of the imports and exports for the last three years. The manner of reporting, entering, and ascertaining the amount of the duties on goods and merchandize imported, and the form of the Bonds taken for the payment of the duties. What bonds are in the offices due and not discharged, and the time of their standing. Do vessels coming from other Districts produce permits and obtain others? Heads of enquiries made

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WALTER CROCKETT TO GOV'R HENRY. July 26th

Sir:

I am sorry to inform your Excellency that on the fourteenth Inst. a party of Indians, supposed to be about forty or fifty in number, came to the House of Capt. James Moore, on Blue Stone, in this County, and killed himself and his whole family, eleven in number, and carried off his whole stock, which was very valuable. They likewise Burned and destroyed the Houses and fencing, and left several war clubs and arrows, and to all appearance are for continuing Hostilities. The unhappy affair has Montgomery county

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1786. July 26th thrown the Inhabitants on the frontiers of this County into the greatest consternation, and they are more Panic struck at this than they were at anything that happened to them in the course of the last War. They have gathered into small stations in order to defend themselves, and hath apply'd to me for some men to aid and assist them untill they get in their Harvests. I have ordered out to their assistance a Lieutenant with thirty men from the more Interiour parts of the County, to stay on Duty one Month, or untill I get Instructions from your Excellency. * * * The frontiers of this County being very extensive, I expect that there will be more than thirty men wanted to guard it, and to be sent down New River.

I am your Excellency's Humble Servant, &c., &c.

July — *To the Inhabitants of Nelson, Lincoln, and Fayette Counties:*

Friends and fellow-Citizens:

Appeal for aid from the inhabitants of Jefferson county, Kentucky

Indepen't of that benevolence of disposition which should mark the Character of every individual and excite to generous and noble actions, there exists an implied Compact between the settlers of this Country to support and defend each other against the invasions and attacks of our relentless and common enemies.

Under the influence of this persuasion, with minds deeply affected by the loss of two of our most valuable friends and neighbours, whose characters, both in private and public life, do honour to human nature, we apply to you for aid to revenge the injuries we have already suffered and to prevent those with which we are every day threat'n'd. We lament the horrid occasion which subjects us to the dire necessity of applying to our Friends to leave their peaceful abodes and enter on scenes at which humanity wou'd shudder, were it not in defence of the lives of ourselves, our wives and helpless infants, who, without your friendly interposition, will most probably fall a prey to Savage Barbarity.

Figure to yourselves a numerous, helpless Family, whose stay, support, and comfort of their lives is torn from their bleeding hearts by savage cruelty, and left to mourn the loss with Tears unceasing as they are unavailing, which Fiction has unhapily been realized by the death of our worthy and much-lamented Friends, Colo. Christian and Mr. Keller, and we flatter ourselves that however pressing the calls of your domestic concerns may be, you will not withhold that assistance which we now most earnestly intreat from you. We have hitherto deferred making this application, hoping that our own strength would be sufficient to repel our cruel invaders, but since we find that inadequate, being encompassed with dangers and every day plundered of our property, we have no recourse but to our Friends of Nelson, Lincoln, and Fayette.

You need not surely be reminded how much you are interested in our security. Should we, as we have great reason to fear from the hostile

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disposition of many of the Savage Tribes and their daily incursions, be reduced to the calamitious necessity of abandoning our settlements, your counties must become Frontiers, and in that situation will certainly experience all those evils which we now complain of, under which we are suffering, and from which we solicit your brotherly assistance to releive us: 1786. July —

WM. POPE, County Lieut.,
JAMES FELLOORE,
RICH'D TERRELL,
EDMOND TAYLOR,
RICH'D TAYLOR,
RICH'D EASTIN,
——— DANIEL,
ANDR. HETH,
RICHARD C. ANDERSON,
W. CROGHAN,
JNO. RICE JONES,
JAMES PATTEN,
MOSES KWY KENDALL,
WM. B. SMITH,
PAT. JOYES,
NICH. MERIWETHER,
LAURENCE MUSE,
G. R. CLARK,
LEWIS FEILD,
DAVID MERIWETHER,
ALEX. BRECKENRIDGE,
JAS. SULLIVON,
ELISHA L. HALL,
DAVID MORGAN,
WM. MERIWETHER,
JNO. ———,
JOHN E. KING,
LAURENCE ROSS,
SHARPLEY ROSS,
JNO. CASKIE OWINGS,
WM. PEYTON,
BEN. SEBASTIAN,
WILLIAM TAYLOR,
JAMES BRECKENRIDGE,
RO. BRECKENRIDGE,
JOHN SMITH,
ISAAC HITE,
JOHN O'BANNON,
JOSEPH HITE,
RICHARD WOOLFOLK,
WALLER STATTARD,
WILLIAM CARNEY,
WILLIAM FLOYD,
ROB. FLOYD,
NAT. FLOYD,
ALEX. S. BULLITT,
JOHN HINCH,
JEMAES LINDSEY,
REUBEN CASE,
JOSEPH CASE,
NATHANAEL CASE,
WM. CHAPMAN,
DAVID CASE,
JOSEPH BROOKS.

Original settlers

The County Court — August 1st

Order that John Thomas, Gentleman, be nominated and recommended to the President and masters of William and Mary Colledge as a proper Person to be commissioned surveyor, &c. — Mercer county

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L. Wood, J'n'r, Sol., to the Lieut.-Gov., — August 2nd

Applying for warrant for fifty pounds, to defray the travelling expenses of the Riders to be sent out with "notices and Executions" to delinquent sheriffs. — Richmond Solicitor's office

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1786. I. LATIL TO GOV. HENRY,

August 2d, Richmond — Complaining of the neglect visited upon M. de Beaumarchais, and praying that the amount, £42,927. 1. 5. in specie, allowed him by L. Wood, j'n., Esq'r., Solicitor, in 1784, be paid as soon as practicable.

August 3d — LEWIS BURWELL TO GOV. HENRY,

Mecklenburg county — Declining to accept the position of County Lieutenant, as he "never had a thought of resuming that troublesome office," and if he had, there was a part of the recommendation he is not satisfied with.

August 3d — WM. DAVIES TO THE GOVERNOR,

Petersburg, Va — Enclosing petition of citizens for the appointment of an additional notary public for that place, and recommending him for that office. This necessity had grown out of "the extent of trade and variety of business carried on by the inhabitants of this town and neighborhood.

August 4th — AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES TURNER,

Hanover county — Made before Geo. Cleugh, that in October, 1784, Col. John Syme, of Rocky Mills, had been presented by the Grand Jury for retailing Liquor contrary to Law.

August 7th — JOS. MARTIN TO GOV. HENRY,

Holston

Sir:

In my absence from Long Island Some Cherokee Indians kill'd two white men. A number of men from the state of franklyn has push'd into their Towns to Demand, as they say, the murtherers, when one man could do that Business. Should they make a stroke on them people, your Excellency will know what a Situation the people in powel's Valey and Clinch will be in.

By the Time I arrive at the Long Island, which will be To-morrow, I hope I shall have some Certain accounts. If anything unfabourable I will send Express. In the Interim I will Endeavour to stand fast at powel's valey. The Cheifs of the Cherokees has offered to Deliver up the murtherers, but must have some time to Do it, in which Time they would give up any number of Hostages. * * * * * *

As it will be absolutely necessary to have a meeting with the Indians Immediately, I must beg that you will order me one hhd. of Good Rum on account. I will not ask it on the publick ac't.

I am, sir, with Great Respect, your Excellencie's
most humble and most ob't Servant.

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W. GRAVES TO GOV. HENRY, 1786.

Asking to be allowed a Boat and two hands to perform his duty as searcher at that Port. The expense of hiring was great. He has detected great impositions practiced by vessels failing to enter their proper Tonage. A number of British Vessels had entered only half tonage, and he had saved to the Government five hundred tons since the last week. August 9th Norfolk

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ALEX. BARNETT, COUNTY LIEUT., TO GOV. HENRY. August 12th

Sir:

On Teusday last I received your instructions to call out the number of forty men, for the purpose of safety for the frontier of said County, the Distance of our County being so Extensive from Montgomery line to Martin's Station, in powal's Valley, I think, to be One Hundred and forty miles, or near that mention, and not more than fifteen miles in width at the widest place of it, and but few places of it that width; that nearly all parts of it are alike Exposed to Danger. Duering the Indian ware every part of it suffer'd. The late attemp by the indians made on bluestone, when destroying Capt. Moore and family (which I expect you have been inform'd of), from the best accounts I Can Get, was the Cherokees, and not Exceeding ten or Twelve in number. Upon receiving report of it, I issued orders to send out spies, three pare, one for the upper part of the County, one for the Senter, and one for the Lower End. The two in the Senter, that went from Cassel's woods, Discovered a trace of Mockeson tracks and horses that had sometime before travel'd along on the top of Cumberland mountain. They reported they followed them about ten miles still on the mountain. They say the indians, as they suspect them to be, had about seven or Eight horses, and four or five on foot. It is a ——— that they are the same that were at Moore's, on Bluestone, as it apears that is the number of horses taken from there at that time. I am of the opinion, as the inhabiters of the County live so sectered that, it will answer as good a purpose to send out spies at times of suspition, as to be at the expence of Stacions of men in Different parts in the County, except in Powal's Valley. Men in this part in generall are scruplus of satisfactory payment being made them for supplys made to stations of men. Auditor's certificates are refused to be received by our sheriffs in payment of Taxes, and people says they are of no use to them. Russell county

He had not received the new Militia Law, consequently did not know his duty. He had ordered the militia to hold themselves in readiness in case of threatened invasion by the Indians. This he thought a better plan than to maintain stations of men. Quiet prevails at present, but he anticipates another attempt of the Indians about September next.

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1786. JOS. MARTIN TO GOV'R HENRY.

Sir:

August 14th Long Island In the time that I was absent from this Quarter, the Indians Killed two men near the end of Clinch Mountain. The people from the State of Franklin, if they may be so called, Imbodied and marched within fifteen miles of their Towns, then sent for the old Tassell, the Hanging man, and others of the Cheifs, to come to them, which they did, and informed the white people that it was done by two or three young fellows that lived in a town called Caw-a-Tie, about Twenty miles Below Chota, they being hired by an old fellow from the Chickamogga, who had Two sons Kill'd by the white people last spring—that they condemned the act, and would Deliver up the murtherers if they would give them a little time, but they ware Run off—that their Desire was peace—that they hoped they would not Distress Innocent people on Account of Rogues. The reply from the Commanding Officer was, that they would have their lands. The Tassell told them he had no right to give them any land, that Congress had taken up that matter. They immediately marched into the above mentioned Town, where they Killed one young woman, and shot several others. Greatest part of the Indians had fled. They burnt the Town house, and several other Houses, and Destroy'd part of the Corn.

John Martin, who manages publick business in my absence, lived in the Town. He moved off About ten miles with what public property he had, and his own also, to keep out of the way of the army. They pursued him, took him with the s'd property, consisting of 2,000 lbs. of Dressed leather, 16 head of horses, and furrs, &c. After keeping of him prisoner some time, tryed him By a court martial, and cleared him of every charge, then took from him Every thing he had, of both Public and Private property, Even his Blankett, Kettle, &c.

From such conduct your Excellency will easily Judge what a Situation Powell's Val'y and Clinch will be in, as I expect the Cherokees will move off and join the Creeks, tho' I shall do Every thing in my power to prevent it.

If about fifteen men could be Enlisted for about twelve months, I think my Station would stand. Nothing can be expected from Russell County, as almost Every house in it is a frontier, Being 100 miles long, and the widest part not ten, and many parts not over four. I Could Enlist the men if authorized.

I have the Honour to be

Your Excellency's most Humble and most ob't Serv't.

P. S.—The Commanding Officers, Col. Outlaw and Cook. I shall be very attentive to the motion of the Indians. If I find they are about to move, shall give your Excellency Immediate notice by Express.

J. M.

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J. LEWIS TO COL. JOHN HARVIE. 1786.

* * * * * * * * * * August 18th

He was a young negro fellow that's condemned to be hanged on Teusday next for being concerned in a robery. He was led into the scrape by a fellow that saved his neck by turning State's evidence. I was so vexed with the fellow that I was determined not to endeavour to get him repreiv'd, but the poor wretch has suffered so greatly, I am apt to believe he w'd not be guilty of a like action again. A gallows was yesterday erected for him, at sight of which, 'tis s'd by the Jailer, he was near dyeing, having fainted three or four times repeatedly. Indeed, I would send him off the continent cou'd a pardon be had for him. Cou'd you make application for me to the Governor?

JOHN HARVIE, August 19th

Enclosing to the Governor Mr. John Lewis' letter, begging a pardon for his negro man, Lawrence, condemned to death for robbery.

COL. THOS. MERIWETHER, August 20th

Informs the Governor of the escape of certain fellows pardoned on conditions of doing hard labour, and draws his attention to the Act of Assembly requiring the Governor to issue his Proclamation declaring such persons to be outlawed, and that it shall thereafter be lawful for any person to kill or in any manner to destroy such outlaw without being liable to any pain or penalty for so doing, &c. Richmond

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JAS. M. MCRAE, SEARCHER, August 22d

Informs the Executive of his having seized a vessel from North Carolina for violation of the Port regulations, but advises her release on the ground of the ignorance and poverty of the master and owner. Alexandria, Va.

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1786. PETITION OF THE INHABITANTS OF BLUESTONE,

August 24th On the frontier of Montgomery Co., to the Executive of Virginia, for protection against the Indians, from whose cruelties they had lately been great sufferers. The settlement had become much weaker on account of these attacks, and is not able to protect itself longer without prompt aid from Government. Upon the approach of danger the inhabitants are required to betake themselves and their families to the forts, thus exposing their effects and property to the mauraders, and being few in number and scattered are unable to pursue and punish their enemies. Unless some suitable and regular method for the defence of the county be adopted at once, they should be obliged to abandon their homes, and thus expose to the savages the more interior parts of the country,

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August 29th LEVI TODD TO GOV. HENRY, OF VA.,

Fayette county Enclosing the County recommendations for officers. The large number due to the rapidity of the settlements in this County continues. In consequence of the Instructions from your Excellency and the advice of Council, of the 16th of May, the Field officers assembled from every County and a great majority of the whole in the District. We uanimously resolved that an Expedition against the Wabash and other Inimical Indians in that Quarter was, at this Time, Justifiable and necessary. * * * * Gen'l Clark was appointed to command the army, which is to Rendevous at Clarksville the 10th Sept. We expect our number will be between 1,500 and 2,000. A great part of the necessary supplies is given up to the officers by consent, with Expectation of being paid by Government, and some procured by Impressment. We thought the season too far advanced to postpone the Expedition until Lead could be brought from the mines. We expect that with Industry in gathering we shall procure what may answer this Expedition. 'Tis reported by Traders and others that the Shawnese cheifs and other Indians in that quarter are now treating with Sir John Johnson at Niagara. When this is over 'tis expected they will prosecute Hostilities openly. 'Tis certain some Scalps taken from Kentucky were taken by Shawnese into a Shawnese Town; that they entered with the Customary Solemnities and were received by their Citizens with acclamations of Joy. 'Tis thought, generally, necessary on the return of the army now preparing to march, another should be sent against the northern Indians, unless, between this Time and that, something more favourable appears in their Conduct. We have some hopes that the Indians may demand protection from the British, that if this is refused, as we may expect, a Coolness, or perhaps a quarrel, may arise between them.

I have the Honor to be Your Excellency's
most ob't and Humble Servant, &c., &c.

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BOND IN THE PENALTY OF ONE THOUSAND POUNDS, 1786.

Executed by James Bland, reinstated to his office of Clerk of the County, &c., requiring that he shall, well and faithfully execute the office of Clerk of the Court aforesaid, and will refrain from moving or carrying, or suffering to be removed or carried out of the county of Westmoreland aforesaid, the Records and papers whereof he is clerk, &c. August 31st Westmoreland county

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JAMES WOOD AND JAMES MCCLURG, COMMITTEE, August —

Report that the Auditor of Public Accounts appears to comply with ye law in registering the daily proceedings of his office and regularly arranging ye vouchers, &c. They are informed by him that he has been employ'd this month in stating the amount of the Tax for 1785, Specie and certificates, against each individual Sheriff, and is making a settlement of books and accounts of the public foundery at Westham. His Ledger posted to 10th June and his Journal brught up to Aug. 1st. * *
The Solicitor informs us that ye business of ye Continental Acc't stands still for want of time to attend to it, or of further assistance, having been engaged this month in preparing notices, Executions, &c., and in dispatching them to delinquent sheriffs.

JOSEPH JONES TO GOV'R HENRY. September 9th

Sir:

On the 4th Instant the Inhabitants in and about this place had a meeting relative to the Refugees staying here contrary to the Law For prohibiting certain persons from migrating to this commonwealth and for other purposes. We came to *resolutions as are here enclosed. As I would do nothing contrary to the Laws of my Country, I would take it as an exceeding great favour for you and the council's advice on this occasion how to act. The law is so vague that I really do not know. We are to have another meeting on the 15th Instant. All the intention of those meetings are to enquire and to know the reason the Law is not enforced, and to have it inforced in future. It appears to be the wish of the people here, that all those that come within the Law should not stay, and as the Law does not print in what manner we are to get rid of them, I will thank you to point out in what manner I am to proceed as a magistrate to Execute the Law. If you will pardon me for giving my opinion, I really think this matter ought to be taken up generally, and that you had better Issue your proclamation with advice of Council, requireing the magis- Petersburg

* Not found.

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1786. trates or militia officers to make diligent search in their respective Coun-
September ties for all such persons as come within the Law and, report them to you,
9th or point out Some general mode for Tryal. I will thank you for an answer before Friday next.

I am with respect, Sir,
Your most ob't H'bl. Serv'nt, &c., &c.

September 10th — RICH'D C. ANDERSON TO CAPT. MAYO CARRINGTON.

Louisville — He observes that Congress had sent out surveyors to locate lands on the north west side of the Ohio. The lands between the Scioto and Little Miamy were in the same category with those, and unless the Executive of Virginia shall authorize surveys, he should fail to get their lands into market as soon as those concerned in Lands now surveying. There would be no more danger of bringing on an Indian war in this procedure than in that authorized by Congress. He adds: "I shall write to Col. Campbell to use his influence in giting the line Established which I run, commonly called Henderson's line. This may prevent disputes for ages yet to come." He desires other items of information, "such as for the Assembly to declare who the Islands below the Green River and in the Ohio are subject to," &c.

September 10th — THE SHERIFF OF NANSEMOND PETITIONS THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL

For relief from the Executions against him as delinquent in collection of Taxes for 1784. More than one-half the taxes for that year due the people were unable to pay on account of the great scarcity of cash, the enormous price of the necessaries of life (especially Corn), many families for months suffering for food, &c., and property exposed for sale, but no bidders appearing to purchase.

September 13th — TENCH COXE, COMMISSIONER FOR THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,

Annapolis — To Edmund Randolph, James Madison, J'n'r, and St. George Tucker, Esquires, Com'rs for the State of Virginia.

Gentlemen:

Prior to the receipt of the Act of Virginia, leading to a general Convention of the States, the Governm't of Pennsylvania had in contemplation the assimilation of those Commercial systems which have been adopted for a time by the Several States.

Tho' difference of circumstances has led to dissimilar regulations, it was thought that none should be adopted which might be found to militate

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against the fundamental and essential principles of the Union. In examining the laws of Trade in several of the States the following facts were found to exist: 1786. September 13th

1st. That the duty of Tonnage on Vessels, built in or belonging to the citizens of the other States, was greater than that imposed on Vessels belonging to the Citizens of the States enacting the Law, and equal in some instances to the Tonnage laid upon most of the foreign nations that have a Commercial intercourse with America.

2dly. That the duties imposed upon Goods imported in Vessels built in or belonging to other parts of the Union, were greater than those laid on Goods imported in Vessels belonging to the enacting State.

3d. That Goods of the growth, product, and manufacture of the other States in the Union, were charged with high Duties upon importation into the enacting State, as great, in many instances, as those imposed on foreign Articles of the same kinds.

To procure an alteration of these matters, evidently opposed to the great principles and spirit of the Union, the State of Pennsylvania empowered her Commissioners to the general Convention to treat with certain Commissioners appointed by the Legislature of Maryland, and with others who, it was understood, would be appointed by the State of Virginia.

As you do not conceive yourselves authorized to enter upon any discussion of this Business, I have thought it my Duty to make this Communication, and to request that you will do me the honor of reporting it to your Legislature.

Having pointed out the circumstances in the Commercial laws of the States which appear to our Government to require reconsideration, it will be necessary to inform you how the laws of Pennsylvania stand in these particulars. They declare as follows:

1st. That all vessels belonging to the Citizens of the United States, whether Pennsylvanians or others, shall pay the same Duty of Tonnage, and they do not discriminate against *ships* belonging to the Citizens of the other States, in *any charge* whatever.

2ndly. They impose the *same* Duties on *Goods* imported in ships belonging to the citizens of Pennsylvania as are laid upon Goods imported in ships belonging to Citizens of the other States in the Union.

3dly. They exempt entirely from impost all Goods, wares, or merchandise of the growth, product, or Manufacture of the United States.

It is easy to see that the Legislation of Pennsylvania was influenced to this kind of Conduct by a regard for the general Commerce of the nation, and that Federal considerations have led them to extend their care to that great object without any Discrimination in favour of their own citizens.

The Communication of these circumstances, not heretofore sufficiently known, and a due consideration of them will, it is hoped, be attended with the best consequences; and as the proceedings of the general Convention must necessarily require considerable time, Pennsylvania, I trust, may confidently expect that a State of so much wisdom and of views so enlarged,

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1786. as the Commonwealth of Virginia, will concur without delay in measures
September 13th which, by blending the interests, must cement the union of the States.

I have the honor of being, with the most respectful consideration, gentlemen,

your mo. obed't Serv't, &c., &c.

September 14th IT HAVING BEEN CERTIFIED BY THE CO. COURT TO THE EXECUTIVE

Hanover county That Wm. Johnson, Gent., recommended for a Justice of the Peace, refused to act for reasons set forth in his letter to the Court, to wit:

Gent.:

By the Sheriff I received your summons, requesting my reasons for not qualifying as a magistrate of the County. At the time I left the bench I mov'd for such repairs to the prison as I thought necessary to guard the Court against Insolvent Debtors, in which I was over rul'd. Under the present law, concerning prisons, I conceive our Court are answerable to the Sheriff for every debtor who breaks Jail; and until I see such a prison in Hanover County, as the law directs, I must beg leave to persist in my resolution of not acting as a magistrate in the County. It was ordered by the Court that, in their opinion, there was a good and sufficient prison. At a continued Court it was ordered that advertisement be made in the *Virginia Gazette* for the letting to the lowest bidder the building a prison for the use of this county, &c.; and on Sept. 14th, 1786, Wm. Pollard, jr., Clerk, certifies that "There has, since the above order, been a prison built in Hanover, and the Balance of the money due the undertaker ordered to be paid him."

September 15th SAMP. MATHEWS AND T. MERIWETHER, COMMITTEE,

Point of Fork Reporting to the Executive the Condition of the public arms, &c., at that place. On account of the insufficiency of the houses, and want of labour to clear them, the repaired arms in a very rusty, bad condition. Capt. Peyton thinks the reënlistment of the old guard, and a few more men, would enable him to keep in order all the repaired arms, together with those expected from France. They had ordered Capt. Peyton to do the repairs necessary to preserve the powder and arms ordered from Europe, as the expence would not exceed six pounds.

They recommend the erection of a boring mill, the armorers being at present obliged to bore and grind the Bayonets by hand. A small Tub-Mill might also be constructed in the neighboring stream by which the State would realize as much annual *Toll* as the mill would cost. They enclose a plan of an Arsenal, calculated to contain 15,000 stand of arms. The present Magazine being very insufficient, Capt. Peyton had been requested to draw a plan of one to be constructed of stone, and to contain 50 Ton of Powder, &c.

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AT A MEETING OF A NUMBER OF CITIZENS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH, 1786.

Held at the Golden-Ball, in Petersburg, on the 15th Day of September, 1786, Colo. Bland was unanimously appointed Chairman, and Colo. Davies Secretary. September 15th Petersburg

The meeting, after due deliberation, came to the following Resolutions:

1st, *Resolved*, That it is the indisputable right of Freemen to assemble at any time in a peaceable and orderly manner to discuss their public grievances, and if necessity shall require, to petition or remonstrate to their Rulers thereon.

2d, *Resolved*, That no person vote at this meeting who is not a citizen.

A motion was made by Colo. Heth, seconded by Mr. Eustis that the meeting come to the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting there are now residing in this Town sundry persons who come within the intent and meaning of an Act of Assembly, entitled "An Act prohibiting the migration of certain persons to this Commonwealth, and for other purposes." That they have, each of them, been in this State above twelve months; that their continuance gives much uneasiness to a majority of this meeting.

To which an amendment was proposed by Colo. Davies, seconded by Colo. Banister, to strike out from the word *Resolved* to the end, and instead thereof to insert, "If there are any persons now residing in this Town who come within the intent and meaning of the Act of Assembly, prohibiting the migration of certain persons to this Commanwealth, it is the opinion of this meeting that their residence here is illegal, but as there are doubts respecting the execution of the said act, it is the opinion of this meeting that an application ought to be made to the Legislature at their next session praying a revision of the same."

And upon the yeas and Nays being called for by Colo. Jones, they were taken as follows, viz:

Yeas, for the amendment: Theodrick Bland, Jno. Banester, Wm. Davies, Francis Muir, John Shore, Thomas Bolling, Wm. Haxall, James Field, Thos. Humphreys, Wm. Bragg, T. Griffin Peachy, Fred Victor, Jas. Eason, Baldwin Pearce, Philip Ott, Sam'l Lennox, Jno. Kay, G. Dudgeon, Rob't Richardson, Thos. Genard, Thos. Kerr, James Geddy, David Anderson, Thos. Hope, Wm. McKennon, Alex. McNabb, Joseph Simpson, Jas. Taylor, Thos. Armstead, Benj. Smith, Greif Grammar, Rob't Bolling, James Cureton, F. McNeil, James Gibbon, Kennon Jones, Wm. Cole, James Giddie, J'n'r, Jno. Storey, Wm. Durell, C. Logan, Arch'd Gracie, James Freeland, and Mathew Fernando.

Nays, against the amendment: Joseph Jones, Ab. Eustis, Rich'd Hill, Wm. Hill, Miles Hunter, Wm. Waddleton, James Vaughan, Wm. Starke,

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1786. September 15th. John Vaughan, Chas. Johnson, Norman Bigelow, Anthony Headon, John Somersall, Ch. Roane, R. Bigelow, Benj. Woodward, Wm. Heth, Nat. Harris, Mich'l Burke, Joseph Calvin, John Pollard, Wm. Gray, Wm. Vest, Jno. A. Laussat, Francis Therrie, Steph. Goodwin, Henry Broadnax, Hen'y Randolph, John Grammar, Cad. Evans, Ned Rhea, Francis Anderson, Henry Spell, James Harris, Francis Haskins, Wm. Venison, Rob't Bolling (Prince George), Charles Russell, Tho. Field, Jos. Wisegar.

For the amendment	44
Against it	40
Majority	4

Whereupon, it was—

3d, *Resolved*, That if there are any persons now residing in this Town who come within the intent and meaning of the Act of Assembly prohibiting the migrating of certain persons into this Commonwealth, it is the opinion of this meeting that their residence here is illegal; but as there are doubts respecting the execution of the said Act, it is the opinion of this meeting that an application ought to be made to the Legislature at their next session, praying a revision of the same.

The meeting then adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow.

At a meeting held by Adjournment of the 16th day of September, 1786, Theodrick Bland, Esq'r, in the Chair:

The meeting came to the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, It is suggested there are sundry persons now resident in this Town, who come under an Act of Assembly Entitled an act for prohibiting certain persons from migrating to this Commonwealth, and for other purposes, and whose stay must consequently be Illegal; it is therefore

4th, *Resolved*, That An Address be presented to the Governor and Council to adopt such measures as by them may be deem'd most proper to Enforce a due Execution of the said Act of Assembly.

At an adjourned meeting held the afternoon of the same day, a committee appointed to draw up an address to the Gov. and Council reported, and their action approved. A committee of nine was appointed to prepare a petition and address to the Legislature, &c., viz.: Jerman Baker, Christopher McConnico, Wm. Heth, William Davies, Rich'd Hill, David Ross, St. George Tucker, Thomas Griffin Peachy and Wm. Watkins.

Resolutions were passed thanking Col. Bland for the great propriety with which he hath filled the chair, for his politeness, assiduity, &c., &c., and to Col. Wm. Davies for his services as Secretary, and for the great trouble he has been at in executing the same.

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CAPT. JOHN PEYTON TO COL. THOS. MERIWETHER, 1786.

Enclosing estimates of cost of commissary stores for that Port; also plan of magazine to contain fifty Tons Powder. Reminds him that neither he or Mr. Price had received any part of their salaries for twelve months, and requests the advance of a quarter's pay to relieve them of their many inconveniences. September 17th Point of Fork

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CAPT. PEYTON TO COL. MERIWETHER, September 20th

Requesting him to send up the four field pieces which is in Town, viz.: 2 Brass and 2 Iron pieces, to be left at Westham, where he had Canoes ready to bring them up to this port. The carriages ready upon which to mount them. Point of Fork

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DEPOSITION OF CAPT. SAM'L WESTCOTT, SAM'L HODGES AND OTHERS, September 22d

Before John Nivison, Not. Public, that they had been employed in bringing twenty pieces of cannon (belonging to the publick) from Nansemond River to Fort Point, near Portsmouth; that when on the way from Maj'r Jeremiah Godwin's, on s'd River, where some of the guns lay, a violent storm of wind from the South West arose and upset them, causing the loss in five fathom water of the four Twelve-pounders which they had in. Warwick

Whereupon I, the said Notary, at the request of the s'd Deponents, did and do hereby solemnly protest against the s'd winds, Seas and accidents for all the Losses, Costs, Charges, Damages and Expenses suffered or to be suffered by the Publick and all others concerned or interested in such Guns by reason of the Premises.

In faith and testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused my Seal Notarial to be affixed this 30th day of June, Anno Dom., 1786.

JOHN NIVISON, *Not'y Pub'c.*

To which is appended the following:

This is to certify that I've seen 17 Guns lying at the Fort Point, in Elizabeth river, near Portsmouth, above common high Tides mark, which is said that Mr. Sam'l Westcott landed there.

JNO. THOMAS.

Warwick, Sept. 22d, 1786.

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1786. J. PRESTON TO THE GOV. OF VIRGINIA.

September 23d Montgomery — He had forwarded a letter to his Excellency from the "Inhabitants of Bluestone, a frontier of Montgomery," begging for protection against the savages. Their apprehensions are well-founded; the Indians not fearing the militia, and being able at any moment to make their attacks and retire without molestation, keep them in constant fear. The season which the Indians prefer for going to war was at hand; the signs indicated their intentions to be hostile, and the inhabitants, but few in number, and unprepared for an attack, were daily expecting them. Under these circumstances, he ventures to recommend, as the only and best way of defending the frontier, that a company of volunteers or drafted men be raised at once, whose commander should have authority to establish scouts, power to furnish his provisions from the county, &c. This company should be kept in service not less than three months at a time, and held always prepared to act against and pursue the enemy when discovered by the scouts sent out to watch for them. The Indians finding they could not "break in" without being discovered, would thus be deterred from their incursions. He solicits the command of this company, "not from any lucrative motive, but purely from an intention to do my country a service; nothing can be made; besides, my time and attention must be imployed in this service, and consequently draw me from an office which is very profittable, and this, Sir, you will find to be true when you get acquainted with my character, that disinterested principles compose a great part of it."

September 24th Bath, Berkley — JOHN BERRYMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

He is the Sheriff of Lancaster Co., and has been forced by excessive ill-health to seek relief at the springs. Is apprehensive his under sheriffs will be backward in the collection of the Taxes and that a judgement and execution will be gotten against him as a delinquent. Adds: "It will be late next month before I can venture to quit the Springs, and shall then have a journey to perform of two hundred and thirty miles home, and, in all probability, in a very weak, low condition," &c. * * *
I am informed by letters from my County that the extreme scarcity of grain (corn being at 25s. and 30s. p. barrel) and low price of Tobacco, has disabled the people from paying their taxes as yet.

September 27th Richmond — JAMES TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR,

Enclosing a dissent to and protest against one of the Resolves of a meeting held by a number of the citizens of this Commonwealth in Petersburg on the 15th and 16th September, as follows:

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1786. September 27th

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, having composed part of a meeting held at the Town of Petersburg on Friday and Saturday, the 15th and 16th of this Instant, September, &c., * * * do hold it our duty to our Fellow-Citizens and Ourselves to Dissent from and Protest against the fourth Resolution, for the reason that it precludes a revision of the Act of Assembly referred to in the 3d resolution, and because the law, although passed several years ago, had resulted in no inconvenience to the people, because the Execution of such a Law being a matter of Serious concern to the Community at large, should not be allowed to apply to partial or local circumstances or representations, and because the mode of punishment, in case of its infraction, is involved in ambiguity and doubt, and should not be inflicted without a fair trial. For all which Reasons we do dissent from the said Fourth Resolution as unnecessary, and having a tendency to awaken animosities and disturb the Harmony and Order of Society.

J. BANISTER,
KENNON JONES,
JNO. SHORE,
WM. HAXALL,
WM. S. PEACHY,
J. GIBBON,
FRAS. MUIR,
SIMON FRASER,
THOS, ARMSTEAD,
C. G. PEACHY,
WM. COLE,
WM. DURELL,
JAMES FIELD,
JAS. TAYLOR,
JAS. GEDDY,
JAS. CURETON.

PROTEST OF NUMEROUS CITIZENS OF THAT COUNTY

September

Sussex county

Against the proceedings of a meeting held in Petersburg on the 15th and 16th Instant, urging the Governor to put into execution the Law prohibiting certain persons migrating to this Commonwealth, &c. They add: "It is with heartfelt sorrow we view any of our fellow-citizens attempt the revival of past animosities, and more so in this Instance, as that the Law has been passed near three years, and we have never heard of its being enforced by the Executive. We mean not to trouble your Excellency with our opinion on the Law, or the Effect it may have on the Community, but only pray that you will not enforce the Same, from a thought that the meeting before mentioned conveys the wishes or opinions of the majority of the Citizens residing in the said County; and we further beg leave to recommend, your Excellency will be pleased, as the meeting of the Honorable House of Assembly is so very near, to lay the Same before them for their Revision.

We most Humbly suggest to your Excellency that it appears to us If it is Politic any Class of men should be prevented from injoying the rights of Citizenship equal with ourselves, the before mentioned Act is not to that end sufficiently explicit.

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1786. ROBERT ANDREWS TO GOV. HENRY.

Sir:

October 2d Williamsburg — By last Friday's Post I was favoured with your Letter of the 21st ult., which is the only one that has reached me since early in the Spring, although I have information from Mr. Selden that you have several times written on the same subject. This, I hope, will acquit me to your Excellency of that want of Politeness and due Respect, of which I must have appeared guilty. I could have wished that both the Time and Place of the meeting of the N. Carolina assembly had been fixed more conveniently for me, but I shall, nevertheless, so anxious am I bring forward the business of the Canal, wait on it, unless something happens which I do nôt now foresee. Mr. Ronald's abilities would make him a very desirable associate, but if he declines the appointment, I beleive Mr. John Cowper, of Portsmouth, will answer very well to substitute in his room. This Gentleman, besides being a Person of good understanding, has an intimate acquaintance with the principal characters of N. Carolina, and he is much interested in the success of this measure. I suppose twenty or twenty-five Pounds will be sufficient to defray the expenses of this Journey.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest Respect,

Your Excellency's obed't and very h'ble Serv't, &c., &c.

October 3d Citico — JOS. MARTIN TO GOV. HENRY.

The Cherokee Indians contented, notwithstanding the late campaign unjustly carried on against them. No danger of their assisting the Creeks. He hears the Governor of the Floridays had told the Creeks to send four men from each of their Towns for ammunition, to be reserved in these Towns. The Gov. of Georgia had sent him word the army against the Creeks was ready, and was to rendezvous on the Shoulderbone, a branch of the Oconies, the fifteenth of this Instant; that he had demanded satisfaction of them for the mischeif they had done, or should march at once upon their Towns. The Cherokees much pleased at this. Tassell was then with him, and desires him to send his thanks "in a particular manner" for the medal which he, with the consent of the white nation, had given to a cheif Highwasse, a relation of Oconostoto. He had been through the different towns of late, and should do all he could to keep them in a good humour, tho' they were very uneasy about their lands. The people from N. Carolina had actually settled within five miles of their Towns, and they desire Congress to be informed of this. He adds: "Mr. Gilbery, who manages the Creek Business for the Spaniards, has actually sent to Cumberland for the people there to send Commissioners to him and he will treat with them separately; for which purpose they Commissioned one Sam'l Martin. He is now on that Business in the Creek nation."

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1786.
October 3d

One Sam'l Riley, in whom I can confide, Informs me that he has conversed with some of the French on the Tenesee. They tell him they have more Goods and ammunition stored up near the Muscel Sholes than all the Southern Indians can purchase in three years. He says they bring them from the Opost, that they are under British Government. Samuel Martin, on his way to the Creeks, spoke with some of them at Chickamogga, desired them to leave our country unless they would apply in a proper manner for liberty. Their answer was that if they ware drove of it would be attended with a bad consequence. They have large supplies of ammunition and very little here. A number of Indians from these Towns are going to them for a supply—two Canoes passed by heare Yesterday; Several others were ready to start. I shall be very attentive to their motions. If your Excellency will favour me with any commands they will meet me at the North Carolina Assembly, as much is to be done there in November next Respecting the Indians. The old Tassell urges me to be there.

I have the Honour to be, with great Respect,
your Excellency's most ob't and very
Humble Serv't, &c., &c.

JOHN P. DUVALL, CO. LIEUT., October 6th

To the Manager at the Lead Works, Montgomery County:

Harrison county

Sir:

I had virble orders some time ago from his Excellency, Governour Henry, to call on you for any Quantity of Lead, not Exceeding one Thousand Weight, in case of an invation; and as that is the case at Present in this County, Be pleas to send by the Bearer the above Quantity of one Thousand Weight, and his Receipt will be Excepted of by the Governor, as he informed me he had given you general orders in case the different County Lieutenants should call on you for the same. Your compliance will oblige, Sir,

Your most ob't, H'ble serv't, &c., &c.

DAVID JAMESON TO JACQUELIN AMBLER, October 8th

York

In favor of the releif of Cap. Thomas Bowne in the final settlement of his accounts. He had been appointed by Col. Davies in 1781 an assistant commissary under Majir Pryor after his return from captivity in Charles Town. * * * * * *

Capt. Bowne is a good citizen—a man of unblameable character, and much esteemed by all who know him. He entered into the service at the beginning of the war as a volunteer, and by his merit rose to the rank of a Captain in one of the Virg'a Regiments that went to Charles Town, where he was captured.

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1786. CAPT. J. PEYTON TO COL. T. MERIWETHER,

October 8th Point of Fork — Expressing great regret the Governor should have blamed him for not having put the arms at that Port in boxes, whereby they would have been kept from rusting. He thinks this would not have prevented it. The wheels for the Port Carriages ready to be delivered either at that place or at Westham.

Qctober 9th L. WOOD, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR,

Richmond Solicitor's office — Expressing great concern at finding himself unable to obtain Judgments against the Sheriffs for the Taxes of 1785, owing to errors in the additions of the Clerk's Returns of Taxable Property, and requesting directions how to proceed, so as to correct the Books and prevent Sheriffs making improper settlements.

October 13th DUDLEY DIGGES TO HON. J. AMBLER, ESQ.

Sir:

Williamsburg — The Court of Directors have at length effected the repairs of the Hospital for Lunatics, &c., and put it in a proper Condition to receive some unhappy Patients who have long suffered for want of this humane Asylum, established and intended by the Legislature of our Country for their benefit and support. In doing this, however, the whole sum of two hundred pounds, lately received from the Treasury, hath been exhausted; and therefore the Court of Directors have come to a Resolution, which I have now the honor to enclose, requiring Mr. Joseph Hornsby, Treasurer to the said Hospital, to draw on you for the sum of four hundred pounds, being the balance of six hundred pounds voted by the Gen'l Assembly for the purpose of supporting this same Hospital, &c.

October 14th *By his Excellency*, PATRICK HENRY, ESQUIRE,

Governor of the State of Virginia:

A PROCLAMATION.

Richmond — WHEREAS, I have received Information that sundry Persons, coming under the description of those who are forbidden by Law to migrate into this Commonwealth, have, notwithstanding, become resident within the same, I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of the Council, to issue this, my proclamation, hereby commanding every person within this Commonwealth, whose residence therein is forbidden by the Act entitled "An Act to prevent the migration of certain Persons to this Commonwealth, and for other purposes," That they forthwith depart therefrom. And for as much as it is essential to good Government that in all

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cases a temperate and regular administration of Justice should prevail, especially in cases where the rights of foreign Nations may be concerned, and to the end that offenders against the said recited Act may be proceeded against, agreeable to the usual forms of Law, all the good citizens of this State are injoined to give information to the Attorney-General of, and concerning, all Offences which they may know, or have good reason to beleive, are committed against the forementioned Law, in order that Indictments in the General Court may be prosecuted against the Offenders; and for the better information of those whom it may concern, I have caused a Copy of the said Act to be Subjoined. 1786. October 14th

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth, in the Council Chamber at Richmond, this 14th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1786.

P. HENRY.

Attest:

A. BLAIR, *C. C.*

ED. RANDOLPH, ATT'Y-GENERAL, TO THE GOVENOR. October 15th

Sir:

Your Excellency having called upon me for my opinion as to the legal mode of proceeding against persons who come within the purview of the Act of Assembly, entitled an Act prohibiting the migration of certain persons to this Commonwealth, and for other purposes, I beg leave to inform you that this act has pointed out no specific stile of prosecution. It has, however, declared that persons of a particular description shall not migrate. The migration therefore of such persons is an offence against that act. The remedy, then, seems to be, according to the doctrine of Hawkins on the subject of offences indictable at common law, that they are indictable for coming hither; For when a statute forbids a thing to be done, and provides no particular mode of prosecuting for an act done against it, an indictment lies, as a matter of course. Richmond

I have the honor, sir, to be with great respect,

y'r mo. ob. Ser., &c., &c.

WM. RONALD TO THE GOVERNOR. October 20th

Absence from home had been the cause of his Excellency's letter of 21st Sept., dated at Salisbury, not coming to hand sooner. He had not been aware of his appointment as Commissioner on the Canal Business until very recently. Expresses regret that his private affairs so demand his attention that he must request the Governor to excuse him, trusting a proper person may be found who can undertake this business. Should it be otherwise, however, it would give him so much pain should this very desirable public object be delayed from any aid in his power to give, that he would submit to any present incovenience to accompany Mr. Andrews to N. Carolina. Powhatan county

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1786. RESOLUTION

October 26th Thursday House of Delegates — Requesting the Executive to furnish the House an exact statement of all taxable property within the Commonwealth; of the duties payable on Exports and Imports, together with product of the said Taxes and Duties from Jan'y 1st, 1783, to Oct. 12, 1786; giving the am't of specie and special public securities; the arrearages of Taxes due, and the sums of money advanced to the civil officers of Government from the 1st Jan'y to the present time.

October — MESSRS. MILES SELDEN AND CARTER BRAXTON, COMMITTEE,

Report favorably on the State of the Auditor's and Solicitor's offices.

November 1st Wednesday — DOCTOR FOUSHEE'S COMP'TS TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR,

And as he understands that his Excell'y has sent in a Letter of resignation, begs leave to request the favour of him, as he is best acquainted with the circumstances, to say, with the Hon'ble Board, what allowance shall be made the Doctor for his trouble in Examining Prisoners, &c.

November 1st Norfolk — WM. GRAVES, SEARCHER, TO THE GOVERNOR.

He had found it necessary to purchase a Boat in order to attend to his duties properly. It is a very hard life, having to measure every vessel that comes into the Port. The British vessels rarely enter their Tonnage correctly, often falling short one hundred tons.

November 1st — PETITION OF JEREMIAH JACOB AND MARY, HIS WIFE,

Formerly the wife of David Rodgers, who has been employed by the State to raise a Party of men and a Boat to go an Embassy to New Orleans to negotiate Business of Importance on behalf of this Commonwealth, which there was reason to believe he had performed. But on his return up the Ohio River with goods, &c., he was attacked and defeated by the Indians, and lost his life, property, and papers thereby. That he was the second husband she (Mary Jacob) had lost in the public service, and with him all her property. She therefore begs for relief in the premises.

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CAPT. J. PEYTON TO COL. MERIWETHER. 1786.

He sends a wagon with the stores needed by Capt. Barron, viz: 20 p'r Breeches, 20 p'r Stock'gs, 12 musketts with bayonets, 12 Cartridge boxes, 100 lbs. Cannon powder, 30 doz. musket Cartridges, 6 doz. flints, 6 pistols, and 50 lbs. musket ball, for which he requests a receipt. Mr. Price and himself start for the lead mines the day after to-morrow for the purpose of bartering off Feilding for Beef and Horses for the use of this Post. Thinks beef will be hard to get. Great want of Iron to make bayonets and no money with which to purchase it. November 2d Point of Fork

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CAPT. PEYTON TO COL. MERIWETHER. November 3d

Mr. David Ross desires to know of the Executive whether they will sell to him a Ton of ye public lead that is lodged with Mr. McGavock at Fort Chiswell. Point of Fork

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EDMUND RANDOLPH, ESQ., November 7th

Elected on joint ballot Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, to serve one year from the thirtieth of November, 1786.

Messrs. Mathews, Madison, Wm. Thornton, Turbeville, and John Seabrook Wells, the Committee on the part of the House, to meet the Senate Committee, for the purpose of examining and counting the ballots. Tuesday House of Delegates of Virginia

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FIVE DELEGATES TO CONGRESS, November 7th

Viz: Wm. Grayson, James Madison, Jr., Rich'd Henry Lee, Joseph Jones, and Edward Carrington, Esquires, elected by joint ballot of the General Assembly to serve for one year.

COL. J. F. MOORE TO THE GOVERNOR, November 16th

Complaining of the action of the Court of that County, only four being in the bench, in nominating two of their own number for County Officers. Jefferson county, Ky

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1786. CAPT. JOHN PEYTON TO COL. MERIWETHER,

November 20th Point of Fork — Acknowledging receipt of his letter of the 8th, in obedience to which Mr. Price, who had been acting as Clerk to the Post, and who was then at the lead mines on public business, would consider himself as discontinued as soon as he returned. He also considers himself no longer a public officer, not being equal to the whole of the duty required at the place. Begs the Executive Board be informed of this, that his successor may be appointed to receive the stores in his care and settle the accounts of the department.

November 20th — LEVI TODD TO GOV. HENRY, OF VIRGINIA.

May it Please Your Excellency:

Since the return of the armies from the north west side of the Ohio, I presume many, and perhaps various accounts of the Success of one, and failure of the other, have been transmitted to your Excellency. Since the return of the Army under General Clark, I have been convinced (and expect the Executive will deem it necessary) that an enquiry ought to be made into the causes of the bad Success of that Army, and hope this may be done by some Judicious and discerning Men of the District, not Officers in that Army, by Order of the Executive. I wish that facts might be fairly stated—then, and not till then, Truth will fairly transpire, and reflections fall on those who from their conduct merit it. A Circumstantial detail cannot be given without pointing out such conduct in officers as (if properly proved) ought to prevent the like kind forever in future from them. For these Reasons, and my being an Officer at the Time, I omit saying anything more, but earnestly requesting that some mode of this nature may be adopted by the Executive to point out men who officiate without merit.

I have the Honour to be your Excellency's
Obed't H'ble Serv't, &c., &c.

November 21st — AT A COURT OF QUARTER SESSION

Goochland county — Continued and held by adjournment, &c. Present in Court, Thomas T. Bates, John Guerrant, John Curd, John Shelton, and Mathew Vaughn, Gents, the Justices. Two of the other Justices having demeaned themselves in a manner unbecoming the Office of Justices of the Peace by Drunkenness, and appearing in Court during the sitting of the Court while drunk, to the great interruption of Business, it was ordered that the matter be reported to the Executive of the State for their consideration.

Signed, GEO. PAYNE, *C. C'lk.*

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COL. JOS. MARTIN TO GOV. HENRY, OF VIRGINIA, P'R COL. HAIRSTON. 1786.

Sir:

I return'd from the Cherokee nation last evening, took Georgia in my rout, to know what was done with the Creeks. The particulars from there is, they have Treated on the following tearms: The Creeks have agreed to give up all the lands heartofore sold to that State. They have agreed to give up all plundered property, also their murtherers. In security they have given up five of their Cheifs as hostages untill they comply with the Treaty. Fifteen light Horse have gone home with the Creeks from the Treaty to see the Murtherers executed. * * November 21st Smith's River

It is certain that the settlers on Cumberland have commission'd a certain Sam'l Martin to make a separate Treaty of peace with the Creek Indians for that Quarter. He waited on Mr. McGilvery accord'y, and finish'd that business, which app'd by the following letter from one of the Traders:

LOOK OUT MOUNTAIN, ye 15th of October, 1786.

Sir:

We have very little news on this quarter, only I saw Mr. Martin a few days ago on his way from the Creek Nation. He informs me that he has made a lasting piece with the Creeks for Cumberland. He was in company with Charles Weatherford, two Creeks and a Linquestor. The French hear carry a very high hand, and I expect in a very short time will draw all the Indians off to their Interest. They sell them the best Diffle Blanketts for one Otter skin, or two pounds of Beaver furr, which is much cheaper than we can purchase them at Augusta. If the States don't do something shortly the American Traders must give over all pretensions of Trading in future, and give up the traid to Detroit, where those French traid to.

I am, S'r, y'r most H'ble Serv't,

JOHN A. DARE.

If the Creeks have Treated with Cumberland seperately, I fear they will turn their attention to the Kentucky Road and powel's Valley, as I suppose Georgia said nothing about that Quarter. If so, that Defenceless part must suffer greatly, as no kind of assistance can be had from that defenceless County, Russell, as the County is about one hundr'd miles in length, in the widest part not over ten, and in many parts not over five. Every part of it is a frontier. I set out on Saturday next for the Assembly of No. Carolina, to lay before that Honorable body the proceedings of the pretended State of Franklin, their Encroachments on the Indian Lands, &c. The Indians prest me so earnestly that I could by no means refuse. I expect to return in the beginning of next month, and set Immediately for the Cherokee nation. Any Commands that your Excellency will honour me with shall be carefully attend. to.

I have the Honor to be, with very great Respect,

Y'r Excellency's most H'ble and most ob't Serv't, &c., &c.

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1786. November 21st — P. S.—Mr. McGilvery, the Spanish Agent, nor none of his party, came in to the Treaty (tho' sent for). His answer, I am well informed, was, he wou'd treat with Congress, tho' not with Georgia. The Middles promised the Chickasaws and Cherokees. Please to forward by Colo. Hairston. The Lookout Mountain is about 115 miles south west from the Old Cherokee Towns, 25 from Chicamogys, one of the principle Towns belonging to the Cherokee.

November 23d — THE GOVERNOR

House of Delegates — Requested to lay before the House the Journal of the proceedings of the Executive.

November 23d — JAMES INNES, ESQ'R.,

Elected by joint ballot of the Gen'l Assembly Attorney-General of Virginia, to succeed Edmund Randolph, Esq., resigned. To take effect the 1st day of December next.

November 23d — WHEREAS A RESOLUTION, PASSED THE 12TH DAY OF JUNE, 1781,

Thursday House of Delegates — Requesting the Executive to present to Capt. John Jouett an elegant sword and pair of pistols as a memorial of the high sense the General Assembly entertained of his activity and Enterprise in watching the motions of the enemy's Cavalry on their incursion to Charlottesville, and conveying to the Assembly timely notice of their approach, whereby the designs of the Enemy were frustrated and many valuable stores preserved, and it appearing that the same has not been compleatly carried into execution—

Resolved, Therefore, that the Executive be requested to comply with the said resolution in such manner as to them shall appear most proper, and that they be empowered to draw upon the Treasurer for such a sum of money out of the Contingent fund as shall be necessary for the purpose.

Teste:

JOHN BECKLEY, *C. H. D.*

1786, December 12th.

Agreed to by the Senate.

H. BROOKE, *C. S.*

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WM. RONALD, THOS. HARRIS, L. MOSBY, 1786.

John Netherland, Edmund Logwood, Edward Mumford, Richard Crump, Goodrich Crump, George Williamson, Wade Mosby, and Thos. Turpin, j'n'r, to the Executive, praying for the relief of Vincent Markham from Judgment obtained against him as High Sheriff of Powhatan Co. for part of the Tax of the year 1785. They certify that it has been from no want of industry or fidelity on the part of the sheriff or his deputy, Mr. Josiah Smith; that the Tax has not been forthcoming, but from the extreme poverty of the people, the scarcity of money, and the entire failure of the wheat crop, and that whenever the sheriff has attempted to make sale of effects in performance of his duties there has not been any bidders. November 26th Powhatan county

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JOSEPH CROCKETT TO GOV. HENRY. November 27th

Since he has had the honor of a seat in the Legislature he had observed with pleasure that the Executive were doing all in their power for the welfare and safety of the western Frontiers, and he hopes they have thereby been sucessful in restoring permanent peace and safety to that unhappy country. He takes the liberty of suggesting to his Excellency the great necessity of a magazine being Established in the Kentucky Country. In view of the great scarcity of arms and ammunition in that region, such a step would be the only means under Heaven of checking the Indians and stoping the effusion of Christian Blood. The experience of the last two campaigns had proved this. Richmond

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ISAAC VANMETER TO THE HON. ED. RANDOLPH. November 28th

Hon'ble Sir:

As our Escheater seems greatly at a Loss how to Proceed in his Duty, he has requested me to endeavor to obtain for him such Instructions as may be necessary for him about his Business, particularly what kind of Estates are Escheatable. The forms of the Inquisition, the particular manner in which it is to be taken. And as the South Branch manor is, under peculiar circumstances, being leased by the late Lord Fairfax to the different Tenants for Three Lives, renewable forever at 20s. sterling Rent for every Hundred acres per Year. * * * * In case the Proprietor's Estate therein be Escheatable, he would be glad of Particular Directions thereto.

There is also a manor on Patterson's Creek, in Hampshire and Hardy Counties, belonging to Philip Martin, Esq'r, an officer in the British army,

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1786. November 28th

Leased for three Lives at the same rate, but not renewable, &c. Also a number of Tracts Leased by L'd Fairfax and Colo Martin, as att'y in Fact for his brother, &c., concerning which he likewise writes for Instructions. We are alarmed with a scheme of Speculation in the Land way in our Parts, but what the Prospect or Design is we are not yet informed. Perhaps it may be aimed at one or both these manors. Should it be the case, and they succeed, I am apprehensive it would raise such a spirit of resentment as would be productive of very fatal consequences, as the Tenants already think themselves greatly aggrieved under the oppressive Burthen of both rents and Taxes, &c.

November 28th

THOS. TINSLEY TO GOV. P. HENRY.

Dear Sir:

Rose Hill

My Brother, who is offering for the Command of the *Cavalry to be raised by this State, is very anxious to get the appointment. He depends much upon you, and flatters himself through your interest he may succeed, even if the appointments should not take place before you go out of the Government. He has requested me to write to you, and I do most earnestly solicit you to serve him in this instance. He was an Officer in the Cavalry in the late war, and could, with the greatest ease, get his men. Indeed, I would engage for him in any penalty that he should raise the whole of the men if it should be required. He would, if the Captaincy can't possibly be got, take the Lieutenancy, his fondness for the military life being so great. I flatter myself your being an old Countyman of ours, and being acquainted with my father and us from our infancy, will be some little inducement with you to serve him.

I have the honour of being,
With every sentiment of regard and esteem,
D'r Sir, your mo. ob't Serv't, &c., &c.

November 29th

DEPOSITIONS OF SUNDRY PERSONS

Fayette county

Taken before John Craig, Rich'd Young, Thos. Lewis, and Robert Johnson, Justices, in the case of Colo. Robert Patterson, charged with illegally impressing Commissary stores for the use of the Troops, intended to act against the Shawanees Indians in September, 1786; and with conduct unbecoming an officer, &c. &c.

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*Cavalry for the U. States, ordered by act of Congress of Oct. 20th, 1786, one Company of which was to be raised in Virginia.

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DANIEL M. PAYNE 1786.

Deposed that Col. Patterson had violently taken possession of his father's store after the quantity of salt required by the Quarter Master had been furnished—broke down the door thereof, exposing the goods to plunder—had seized upon his own person, and put him under guard, with the intention of carrying him off with the troops, without giving him the opportunity of securing the store and the contents, valued at fifteen hundred pounds, &c. November 29th

DEPOSITION OF GEO. SHORTAGE.

On the 4th Sept., 1786, in Lexington, he applied to Colo. Levi Todd to excuse him from going with the Troops for a few days, as his wife was likely to have a little one, and that he would follow the Army and Join him at the Falls of the Ohio in two or three days. Todd replied, that he had better come along; that he intended to rule by an Arbitrary power until he returned from the campaign. A short time before this he had been required by one of Col. Todd's officers, and by his orders, to impress the cattle of one Eli Cleavland, by way of making an example of him, and with further orders to kill him should he resist.

DEPOSITION OF THOMAS YOUNG,

Quarter Master to Col. Patterson. He had been ordered by Col. Patterson to provide three bushels of salt for the Troops ordered out on the Shawney Expedition. His orders were in writing, to impress enough for three hundred men for twenty days. He obeyed the order by procuring more than the necessary quantity from Mr. Dan'l Payne, and having it duly appraised. Finding he had too much, he informed Col. Patterson, who ordered him not to return the excess. Subsequently his orders were to take two more bushels. This Mr. Payne resisted, but Col. Patterson, with a guard of men, broke open the store and seized the contents, and put Mr. Payne under arrest, with the view of carrying him off with the army, which was done, leaving his property in the hands of the Soldiers. On the 22d Sept. he was ordered by Col. Patterson to impress 100 pounds of lead from old Mr. Grymes, which was done by Lieut. McMustree with a file of men.

RICH'D YOUNG

Deposed that Col. Patterson had requested him on the 26th Sept., 1786, the day for the rendezvous of the militia, to apply to Mr. Ed. Payne for Salt, he, Patterson, not being on very friendly terms with that gentleman. Payne expressed great willingness to supply every man with Salt who wanted it, but that Col. Patterson had made free with his character and had not treated him well, and that he should be glad to see him at some future day.

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1786. JOHN PAYNE

November 29th Deposed that on the 6th Sept., 1786, he had been arrested by Col. Todd, put under guard, and threatened to be treated as a deserter—was kept in duress until he furnished a substitute for his service.

WM. JENKINS

Deposed that he had heard Col. Levi Todd say he had ordered the seizure of Eli Cleaveland's cattle, and that Mosby, the impressing officer, had told him, if Cleaveland resisted, he should kill him.

MARY CLEAVELAND

Deposed that, about the 2d Sept., seven men came to impress Eli Cleaveland's property; that she told them to stand back, when one of them presented a gun at her brest. She demanded their authority, but did not produce it, only adding, "they would be Dam'd If they Did not get the Beef, Bacon, and pack horses they wanted." Whereupon they drove off fourteen head of cattle, part milch Cows and part Stears. She stopped them at the gate, at which they broke the fence, and Drove the said cattle of, &c.

PHILLIP EASTIN

Deposed that on Teusday, 26th Sept., 1786, this Deponent has served for seven years in the regular army in the Virg'a Continental line, and bore a Lieutenant's Commission, which place he filled with propriety, and that, on the day above mentioned, the s'd Deponent was taken out of his own house, and the Door forced open by a certain James Kenny, Lieutenant, commanding a party of men.

The s'd Kenny let this Deponent Ride one of the horses for about a half a mile, then they made the s'd Deponent walk and run until he lost his shoes; then they tied this deponent round the middle with a rope and tied the rope to a horse's tail, and then they rode on briskly and made the s'd deponent run after them untill he fell down, and then they drew him, the s'd Deponent, on the Ground tied to a horse for a considerable distance, which much very hurt the s'd deponent, so that he was not able to march, and borrowed a horse to return home on, which was ten miles distance from the camp; and this deponent made application to Colo. Rob't Patterson, who commanded the militia from Fayette, and he would give him no redress, only gave him, the s'd deponent, a pass to return to Lexington to recruit himself and then to follow the army.

MATHEW WALKER

Testified that on the 26th Sept., 1786, he had been arrested by a guard of men under Col. Rob't Patterson, and carried some distance, until he agreed to join the army in the expedition against the Shawney nation.

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MORGAN MORGAN 1786.

Deposed that he was arrested by Capt. McMullen, under order of Col. Levi Todd, put upon his own horse and carried to Lexington. Upon complaining to Col. Todd, he was informed he had a right to take him in the manner he did, and that nothing could be done for his release, although he was willing and ready to pay his fine. November 29th

JOHN CRAIG, RICH'D YOUNG,

Rob't Johnson and Thos. Lewis certify as follows:

We, the subscribers, at the Request of Mr. Edward Payne and others, did meet at Lexington, the 29th day of Nov., 1786, in order to take Depositions concerning Colo. Robert Patterson's conduct as an officer in the County of Fayette, and that he, the said Patterson had legal notice, and accordingly came before the Depositions were taken and Demanded of us to know by what authority we took Depositions. We told him we convened together to take Depositions to lay before the Governor and Council in regard to his conduct as an officer, and that he was sent for to see those Depositions fairly taken. He reply'd they could only take his commission, which he would not walk out of Doors for, took his leave and withdrew before the s'd Depositions were taken.

Given under their hands this 29th day Day Nov., 1786.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER November

from a Gentlemen in North Carolina to a gentleman in Congress:

I have just ——— and ———, who are returned from Nashville. They Inform me that Gen'l Clarke and Col. Logan are now on their march with some militia from Kentucky to punish the western Indians for their predatory excursions against our Citizens.

Clarke is much exasperated against some Spaniards and others, settlers at Opost. He charges them with furnishing the Indians with military stores, and declares his intention of using them with a heavy hand as well as retaliating on the Spaniards for some of the Seizures and Confiscations of the property of our Citizens at the Natches. They add that Clarke is constantly drunk.

I, JOHN HARVIE, December 1st

A Justice of the Court for the County aforesaid, do hereby certify that the oath giveing assurance of Fidelity to the Commonwealth, and the oath of Governor, have, in due Form of Law, been this day administered by Henrico county

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1786. December 1st — me to Edmund Randolph, Esq'r, pursuant to the act of the General Assembly, intituled an Act prescribing the oath of fidelity and the oaths of certain publick officers.

Given under my hand and seal this 1st day of December, 1786.

JOHN HARVIE.

December 1st

BOLLING STARKE, ESQ'R.,

General Assembly Friday — Chosen member of the Privy Council by joint ballot of both houses in place of Spencer Roane, Esq'r., resigned.

December 1st

HENRY LEE, ESQ'R.,

Chosen delegate to Congress by joint Ballot of two houses of the General Assembly in place of Joseph Jones, Esq'r., who declines to accept his appointment, &c.

December 4th

THIS DAY BOLLING STARKE, ESQ'R.,

Henrico — Took the oaths of Fidelity to the State, and also the oath of office as a Privy Councillor, agreeable to Law, before me, a magistrate for the County aforesaid.

Given under my Hand this 4th day of December, 1786.

W. FOUSHEE.

December 5th

ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH, OF VA.

Sir:

Richmond — After consulting with the other members for Washington and Montgomery Counties, they agree in the following facts:

That from Point of Fork to the highest portage on Holstien is about 300 miles; That from Fort Chiswell to the aforesaid portage is 100 miles. That there is very little doubt but that Boats can be constructed or purchased to transport the ammunition and arms from Holstein by water to the Falls of Ohio, or the Salt Works on Salt River, by the last of April or sooner. That on the southern road waggons can pass all winter, and the Tenassee at no season freezes over. Danger from the Creeks or Chickamogga part of the Cherokees is not to be apprehended, as a Cheif of the upper Cherokees may, at a small price, be procured to go in the Boat all the way. Upon a hasty calculation the expence of transportation would be about one-half of that which is usually paid by the way of Fort

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Pitt, and the danger from the nothern Indians attacking the Boats on the Ohio much greater than on the Tenassee. For more accurate and satisfactory information, I beg to refer your Excellency to Colo. Craig and Colo. Crockett. 1786. December 5th

I am, Hon'ble Sir,

Your most Obedient Serv't.

ROB'T JOHNSON TO GOV. HENRY. December 5th

He is living about thirteen miles from the Town of Lexington, in Fayette County. Great complaint existed in that country against the officers of that County for their bad conduct in the late expedition against the Indians north of the Ohio River. We have two sorts of people in this country, one. called tuckyahoes, being Generall. of the Lowland old Virginians. The other Class is Called cohees, Generally made up of Backwoods Virginians and Northward men, Scotch, Irish, &c., which seems, In some measure, to make Distinctions and Particions amongst us; and some time lately I understood there came to hand commissions for ten magistrates, and when those ten was recommended I believe there was no advantage taken by either party in the nominations. Big Crossing, Fayette county, Kentucky

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CAPT. JAS. BARRON TO GOV. RANDOLPH. December 7th

Sir:

The State Schooner Patriott, at present under the Command of my Son, brings up the 10 chests of Small arms which was detained at Norfolk for duty, freight and storage. My Extreme indisposition prevents my attend'g in person. I can answer for the greatest Care being Taken of them, and their safe delivery at Richmond.

ANONYMOUS LETTER December 7th

Complaining of the administration of affairs in that country, &c., addressed to Gov. Pat. Henry, at his Seat:

Dear Sir:

Being greviously Oppre'd with the situation of this place, by unlawfull proceedings of the Civil and Military Officers, I make free in presenting a fiew hints of their conduct before your Excellency (altho' a stranger), such as that the State's Eterny-Gen., Col. Mooter, with Mr. Wallis, two of the Supreme Judges of the District, Hath from a letter you wrote, May '86, given from under Hand as their oppinion you had Diligated your all power and authority unto the officers, informing any expedition against Indians, or pressing supplys for the Same, which hath made our superficial officers say that, if they did wrong, the oppres'd had Kentucky District

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1786. December 7th

no redress, for their had already got in writeing the Judge's oppinion, with the State's eterny for their conduct. And where could they go for justice or Law, as their was no appeal to Richmond in that case?

I was cal'd on a tower of fifty-five Days' Duty on the Waughbash expedition, with about a day's notice before they march'd. I ast from what authority I was order'd; they refused to give it, on which I refus'd to Obay. Sometime after the Officers se't a proclamation, if those who fail'd to go on the waughbash expedition should be acquited all fines if they would go on a shauney expedition. I disputed the Legallity of that, and would not go. However, they went to the shauney towns, one of which had (as I am inform'd) a counsel House, and the American coulours stuck on it. The Indian Cheif met our Army at the Dore with a bow, and pointed at the colours, saying he was a friend, and after shaking hands, some of the men kil'd and skelp'd him, and took his son prisoner, which they kil'd next Day (as I am told), and brought the colours and had them stuck on Fayette courthouse. * * * * Sometime after this a Court Martial was held to try delinquents, and being called on for reason for his absence, &c, he was fined forty shillings for not obeying. Although the notice to him had been entirely too short for such a term of duty, adds: "requested the favor of them to shew me what Law I was tried by, but c'd not obtain the favour, but was inform'd they had a shete of Law which had neither Date or State to it. I ast if it set no time for notice in it; they s'd five Days; but as it was deficient in that respect they would not abide by it. As I am a poor fellow, and Depending for my living, shall forbear signing my name, knowing my insufficiency, for fear I should be contem'd by others for attempting to write to you. At the same time I beleave, yea, I am sure you may, on inquiring strictly in the matter, find the substance of this letter to be truth."

I am your most Ob't Serv't.

N. B.—* A number of Dishes, plates, &c., &c., prest and shot away instead of Lead, and on the two expeditions not less than (from the best accounts) four hundred bullocks, Besides a number of pack Horses, and many other articles, as some say to the amount of £30,000 for naught.

Yours, &c., &c.

December 7th

Fayette county, Lexington, District of Kentucky

B. PATTERSON TO GOV. HENRY.

He had been notified by a certain Edward Payne and others to attend at the taking of Depositions respecting his conduct as an officer. He accordingly attented and found several Magistrates taking depositions against Col. Levi Todd, as well as himself. As soon as he found he should not be allowed to cross-examine the witnesses he retired without ceremony. He does not know what the exact purport of these depositions is, but supposes they have reference to his acts in the late campaign against the Shawanese. This being so, he should place a state of the facts before

* These were doubtless pewter.

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his Excellency, viz: "The various and inhuman cruelties which was almost daley perpetrated on the people of this district, and which are not unknown to your Excellency, stimulated the inhabitants to take up arms in their own defence. This was judged impracticable to do, to purpose aney other than by carrying an armed force into their Country and then making reprisals, diminishing their numbers, and striking a terror into those remaining. Your Excellency's letters to the County Lieutenants, and the opinions of the judges, Att'y-General on the Militia Law, they thought authorized such a proceeding. The kinds and quantities of supplies was agreed upon, and each Capt. instructed to furnish his own quoto of men and their suplies, by impressment or otherwise. This was executed. Colo. Levi Todd took command of the troops of this county under Gen'l Clark, who commanded the whole. After their crossing the Ohio, Colo. Logan was ordered to return and march against the Shawnes, in consequence of which Colo. Logan ordered me to furnish salt and flower for one thousand men twenty dayes. The quantity alreadye furnished for Colo. Todd's detachment had made these articles scarce, and it was only in the hands of a few men who ware to be found, and the or at lease some of them, appeared inimical to the measures adopted, which seemed to render impressment absolutely nessery or threatin a frustration of the whole plans. Under these circumstances, the quartermaster impressed three boushells of salt, the property of Messrs. Payne & Lewis, two of which were given up, but the other detained, altho' I intreated him with as much modesty as the necessity of the case would admit. On his absolutly refusal, I, considering the salt as publick property, ordered a gard to breake open the door. He, in a minacing maner, and with a presented pistol, stoped them. I then broke open the door, and ordered him under a gard for an insult. The comand of the troops from this county devolved upon me. Under Colo. Logan we immediately marched. The servis we rendered our country your Excellency is well acquainted with. Since my return the have commenced different suits against me in the suppreme court for this transaction, and not contented with the satisfaction they hope for from their proceedings, they are now (I suspect) endeavoring to traduce me to your Excellency, either in my civill or militery capacity, or perhaps both. The testimony taken in the manner mentioned above will not, I hope, have any weight with your Excellency, as they did not admit of a defence, and as the deponents were most of them, if not all, persons who were disaffected to the whole proceeding, being at ease and in safety in the thickest settlement, and so tenacious of their own intrust, and seemingly insensable to the distresses of their fellow-citizens on the frontiers as to make them unwiling to contribute eanye thing necessery defence of the country or render personal servises, tho' legaly and regularly called uppon. I trust, therefore, that your Excellency will set a side such inadequate and partial evidence untill the mater shall appeare in a true light in such a maner as your Excellency shall apoint or the law direct.

1786. December 7th

I am your Excellency's most H'ble serv't, &c., &c.

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1786.

LEVI TODD TO GOV. HENRY.

December 7th Fayette county, District of Kentucky

Since the return of the army from the Shawnese Country he had not heard how that nation was disposed. A man had been lately killed in Limestone Settlement, and one a few days before in the upper end of Jefferson County. This looked as if the Indians meant to prosecute hostilities with vigor. The western Indians seem inclined to peace. He thinks a prudent officer, with a few troops at Post Vincent, would have it in his power to keep the Wabash Indians peaceable. Thinks the garrison at the Falls of the Ohio will never answer any valuable purpose; unless some change be made in the late militia Law, nothing effectual will ever be done by this District against our Enemies.

He has reason to think complaint would soon be made against him and other Field officers of that County, but he flatters himself that his Excellency will make due enquiry into the character of the complainants, the causes that induced the officers to take steps complained of, and their conduct at a time when extraordinary exertions were required. He adds: "I hope Colo. Logan, Colo. Crockett, Col. Rob't Todd, and John Fowler, Esq'r., may be called on for Information on this subject. The opinion of the Judges of the Supreme District Court and the Attorney-General, a copy of which I enclose, given at the Request of the Field officers when convened by order of the Executive before we plan'd an Expedition, was deemed by us a Rule sufficiently warrantable for our conduct in procuring supplies."

I have the honor to be, &c., &c.

P. S.—The officers of this District find the procuring Lead from the mines so great as to render it almost impracticable until the Law is amended, or some mode particularly pointed out, by which means such services as this may be performed.

L. T.

The action of the officers and copy of the opinion referred to above.

THE FIELD OFFICERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY

Having convened agreeable to the order of Council of May 15th, 1786, have requested the opinion of the Judges and Attorney-General for the said District on the following questions:

Whether the power of the Executive vested in them by the Act of Assembly, intitled "An act to amend and reduce into one act the several Laws for regulating and disciplining the militia and guarding against Invasions and Insurrections," and also under the Sixth Article of the Con-

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federation are delegated to the Field officers under such delegation, have a power to Impress supplies for the use of the militia that may be ordered out in Consequence of the said Order of Council. 1786. December 7th

Signed, BENJ. LOGAN.

We are of opinion that the Executive have delegated all their power under the said Law and Article of Confederation so far as they relate to Invasions, Insurrections, and Impressments, to the Field officers of that District, and that the officers, in consequence thereof, have a right to Impress, if necessary, all supplies for the use of the militia that may be called into service by their order or orders, under the said order of Council.

Signed, GEO. MUTER.
CALEB WALLACE,
HARRY INNIS.

ED. CARRINGTON (DELEGATE TO CONGRESS) TO GOVERNOR EDMUND RANDOLPH. December 8th

D'r Sir:

Your Excellencie's favors of the 10th and 18th ult. I have been honored with for Colo. Crockett. I will endeavour to obtain whatever may appear to be due to him. New York

Be pleased, Sir, to accept my sincere congratulations upon your appointment to the Government of Virg'a. You have sacrificed much, in point of Interest, to accept it, and it may happen that your administration will not glide on without meeting opportunities for the full display of your military as well as political talents and influence in the supreme command. *How far the contagion of the * Eastern disorders will spread, it may not be proper to conjecture from the present quiet state of the other parts of the Empire, as from the experience of human nature and the constitutions of our Governments. Man is impatient of restraint, nor will he conform to what is necessary to the good order of Society, unless he is perfect in discernment and virtue, or the Government under which he lives is efficient. The Fathers of the American Fabric seem to have supposed the first of these principles peculiarly our lot, and have chosen it for a foundation. In the progress of experiment the fallacy is discovered, and the whole pile must fall if the latter cannot be supplied.*

The spirit of insurgency in Massachusetts has proceeded to a stage which renders the subversion of that Government an event too probable. The malcontents have assumed a deliberate and systematic conduct, and

* Shay's rebellion in Massachusetts, the troubles in Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and lately in New Hampshire, growing out of the resistance of the people to State levies to meet the payment of interest on their public debts and that of the United States. The great impoverishment of the County consequent upon the war of the revolution,—the real cause.

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1786. December 8th

every day gave confidence and numbers. The inefficiency of Government has been felt by its friends as well as enemies, and many are falling in with the measures of the insurgents, who at first showed a readiness, and actually turned out to oppose them. A personal exertion of the Governor, such as was made by Sullivan in N. Hampshire, might perhaps in the infancy of the business have been equally successful in Massachusetts. There has, however, been a kind of lassitude and indecision destructive of the confidence and zeal of all the members of the State, except those of property. These will lose all in the event of a subversion of the Government, and will doubtless make an effort to preserve it.

*The Legislature have, during their late session, brought forward sundry experiments for suppressing the spirit of insurgency; Acts for bringing into operation force, for alleviating some and removing others of the grievances complained of; and under that one of indemnity, without an exception, provided advantage is taken of it by oaths of allegiance by a certain day, have passed. Amongst the first description is one for suspending the rights of the act of *habeas corpus*, and this seems alone to have attracted the notice of the malcontents. They have added it to their list of grievances; have proceeded to appoint military officers for a large body of men, and continue to suppress the sitting of the Courts; and these things are effected not in a tumultuous, but regular manner. Mr. Shays, their leader, orders them into motion whenever a court is about to sit, and this proves sufficient to procure an adjournment *sine die*. Hitherto their measures have operated only in the infected counties, but they have now set about to extend their powers into the neighborhood of Boston, where no symptoms of the malady have been discovered, Upon the approach of the session of the Court at Cambridge last Tuesday ser night, it was understood that a large body of the insurgents would march there to suppress it. Government accordingly took arrangements for its protection, and troops were actually advanced to receive the *Enemy*, of whom about 180 had assembled at some miles distance from Cambridge, but conceiving their numbers not sufficient for the enterprise they retired. The last accounts are that the Court was proceeding without interruption, and that a troop of Horse had gone forwards with orders to take as many of the insurgents as they could come up with in arms. From the langour of Government upon every former occasion, there is but little reason to suppose the pursuit was pushed to any effect, and therefore it may lead to nothing of consequence, but it is thought by those best acquainted with the state of things there that not a drop of blood can be spilt, nor captive taken without the immediate consequence of civil war. Had the insurgents been in sufficient force to attempt the execution of their designs at Cambridge, Government would have had no alternative but to open the dreadful scene, or yield the compleat domination of the State to them, and a conflict terminating in their favour would probably have been attended with the same consequence.

*Legislature of Massachusetts.

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This business began in County Conventions forming long lists of grievances, the most trifling and unmeaning that can be conceived; nor was there even an agreement in the complaints of any two counties, all, however, agreed in the remedies. These were a suppression of the Courts and an emission of paper money subject to a depreciation, and made a tender equal to gold and silver in all cases whatever. Many of the malcontents have now, however, thrown off this flimsy veil, and openly declare for an abolition of debts, public and private, and a distribution of property. In justification of the latter object, they say that in the act of opposing the british Government the whole property of the people was forfeited, and ought, in the success of the revolution, to be considered as a common acquisition.

It is said that a british influence is operating in this mischievous affair. In the progress of the thing this has happened, but it certainly originatd in the genuine baseness of the people. It as an undoubted truth that communications are held by Lord Dorchester with both the Vermonters and the insurgents of Massachusetts, and that a direct offer has been made to the latter of the protection and Government of great Britain, which they at present decline to accept, but hold in Petto, as a last resort, in case future events may place them in desperate circumstances. They also declare that it is not their intention to touch the continental magazine, which is situated at Springfield, in the midst of their Country, unless driven to it to save their lives; they will, however, think the time arrived for this step upon the happening of any conflict; nor is there a prospect of an adequate protection from any quarter. Here is felt the imbecility, the futility, the nothingness of the federal powers. The U. S. have no troops, nor dare they call into action what is called the only safe-guard of a free government, the militia of the state, it being composed of the very objects of the force; neither can reliance be placed upon that of the neighboring states. N. Hampshire has already shown her kindred to the revolters; Connecticut is not free from the infection, and the Legislative Acts of Rhode Island have discovered that an opposition to them can be expected from no order of people there.

These circumstances have alike forbid the attempt to remove the magazine at an earlier period, as they now do, that of protecting it. Any step to this purpose would have hastened the measures of the malcontents; they were compleatly the masters of the surrounding country, and that they would not permit the execution of the business was certain; the attempt, therefore, must have been followed by the double consequence of cutting off all possibility of accommodation in the State, and blending the union with her in a civil war. It was thought by Congress most politic to leave the stores to the mercy of events; to impress the insurgents with the distinction between continental and State property, and an idea that the United States had confidence in their fidelity and attachment to the Interest and government of the Union. Thus have Congress been compelled to substitute a passive policy for that exercise of power which

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would ensure stability and consequence to the federal as well as State governments.

Upon the meeting of the Legislature of Massachusetts a verbal application was made by her delegates in Congress for the federal aid. This being the only practicable mode. A constitutional one must have come from the Legislature and could not have been obtained with the essential forms and authorities, without becoming a subject of public knowledge, and spurring the insurgents to immediate hostilities. Congress felt their embarrassments upon the occasion. The mode of application was not a proper one. This difficulty was, however, reconciled upon the doctrine of necessity; but the inability of the federal government to do anything effectual, and upon this consideration the impolicy of provoking the hostile dispositions of the insurgents against the Union, from which the least inconvenience that could be calculated on was their resort to the British standard, necessarily came into view. Upon the whole, it was thought best to take only a preparatory step, to be in readiness for whatever prudence and necessity might require in future. The Resolves of the 20th of October were the result of this determination. The western troubles are prefixed as the cause; nor were they entirely out of view; but those of Massachusetts immediately operated. The views of the insurgents are indeed so unworthy that the honor of the Union is interested. The virtuous part of a State ought to meet, in the federal aid—a sheild against the nefarious designs of a licentious Banditti, when the evil has become too extensive for their own controul.

What further events will arise out of this unfortunate business may be unfolded in its progress. My conjectures are, that should any act of violence shortly happen, a civil war must be inevitable; and to accident we must trust for the consequences; but despondency is not a common attendant of mine, and therefore I look forward to one possible ground of accommodation. Could a pause take place for awhile, so as to admit the exercise of reason and reflection, so enlightened a people must have enough of both to behold in a proper light the baseness of the present pursuit. The means of a decent retreat may be sought for, and this may certainly be found in a compromise at the next election. A change of men in the Government would bring about a thorough investigation and correction of public measures. Real greivances may be mended, pretended ones will not be urged. It is said that there are causes of uneasiness, but although these may have been the first principles of action, they have ceased to operate. Could the minds of the people be once brought back all might yet go well.

This instance, terminate however it may, will doubtless teach the necessity of efficiency in government, and perhaps it would be best placed in the federal head. Indeed if this cannot be got in the present form, some other ought immediately to be devised. A change of choice will probably be one of wisdom. If it is left to accident we cannot account for the result.

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1786. December 8th

That great Britain will be in readiness to improve any advantage which our derangements may present for regaining her lost dominions, we are not to doubt. All her appointment to her Colonies, as well as Missions into these States, are calculated to this object. Lord Dorchester is known to be penetrating and judicious, and the people are in the habit of thinking favourably of him. A Mr. Smith, formerly of this city, is sent with his Lordship in the character of Cheif Justice. He is a man of talents, well acquainted with our natural tempers and dispositions, and quitted the country in the firm persuasion that events like these which now prevail would lead to a reunion of us with G. B———. Mr. Temple has been here for sometime in the appointment of Consul General. A Mr. Bond, formerly of Phil'a, has lately arrived as Consul for the Middle States, and it is said others are to be sent for the Eastern and Southern, and thus the scheme of communication will be compleat. It is the practice of nations to admit consuls from all with whom they have any commerce, but I do not conceive there can be a right of admission unless there is an existing commercial treaty.

Mr. T. was recognized before my time in Congress, and am unacquainted with the principles upon which he was received. Mr. Bond has arrived since the adjournment, and his reception remains to be contemplated. I trust that I shall never harbour unreasonable jealousies, but when we know that an insidious foe is vested with the garb of peace and friendship, it behooves us to be vigilant, especially when we are vulnerable in so many ways.

The communications contained in this letter I conceive it my duty to make your Excellency, it being proper that you be fully informed upon so important a subject. I have endeavoured to found them upon the best information, and can pledge myself for the authenticity of them. How far it may be proper to suffer them to become public, I leave to your own judgment. It may be well to communicate them confidentially to some of the members of the Legislature. It would, however, be a breach of the injunction of secrecy and impolitic to commit to public view the part that Congress is acting in the business.

My honourable Colleague, Mr. Grayson, is much indisposed, and has been so for sometime. I wish to see some of the new Members come fo'ward. There has not yet been a sufficiency of States to form a Congress, nor do I see a prospect that there will shortly be one.

I have the Honor to be,
With the highest respect,
Your Excellencie's most Ob't Serv't, &c., &c.

THE TREASURER — December 8th

Authorized to issue to the Order of the Executive such a sum of money out of the Fund appropriated to the Marine Hospital as may be necessary to remove the arms lately arrived from France to the Point of Fork. — General Assembly

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1786.

Sir:

As I Conceive My Common Freedom and Carrecter Much Ingur'd by you, I, therefore, in Order to Do Myself as well as the publick Justice, have apointed Wednesday to take Depositions Respecting your Conduct and Treatment, which Depositions will be Taken in Order to Lay before his Excellency the Governor and Council ———. As no Secret advantage is wish'd to be Taken of your Absence, I should be glad You would Attend at Lexington at ten o'clock, the 29th of this Instant.

December 9th Fayette county, Ky

JOHN PAYNE.

COL LEVI TODD.

Nov. the 27th, 1786.

I hereby certifie this to be a True Coppie of the notice Delivered by me to Levi Todd on the 27th of Nov., 1786.

STEPHEN GRIMES.

THIS DAY STEPHEN GRIMES

Swore before me, a Justice of peace of the County of Fayette, that he deliver'd a true Coppy of the above to Colo. Levi Todd of the date above, as witness my hand.

THOS. LEWIS.

Dec. 9th, 1786.

December 10th

DAVID ROSS,

Arrowfield

Informs James McGavock, in charge at Fort Chizell, that he had purchased of the State a Ton of Bar Lead, and requests him to deliver the same to the bearer hereof.

December 11th

EDW'D PAYNE, THOS. LEWIS, ELI CLEVELAND, ROB'T JOHNSON, JOHN CRAIG, RICH'D YOUNG, AND HENRY PAYNE TO GOV. HENRY.

Sir:

District of Kentucky, Fayette

Some time in the month of August there was a general meeting of the officers of this District, at which meeting they agreed to carry on a campaign against the Wabash Indians, under the pretence that it was ordered by the Governor and Council. They Drafted one-half the militia and imprest provisions, pack-Horses, and other things necessary for the men then ordered out. Colo. Levi Todd, the Commanding officer of this C'ty', who took the command of the men to march from Fayette, ordered one of his captains, who made complaint to him that his men refused to go, to tie them and bring them by force; that he had acted arbitrary and would continue to do so during the present campaign, and several other unlawful acts were committed by his orders.

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1786.
December 11th

Some time after another campaign was ordered against the Shawnee Indians, under pretence of the same authority. Colo. Rob't Patterson took command of the men to march from this County. He gave orders to Capt. Terry to impress salt, who apply'd to Mr. Edw'd Payne, who had salt in his store, who let him have more salt than he had orders to take, but in order to show his authority, the s'd Patterson took a guard of men with him the next day, arm'd, and broke open the store door to get more salt, impressing the store from top to bottom and all that was in it, ordering Mr. Payne's son, who kept the store, under guard and took him away, not even allowing him the liberty of securing the door, and no person present to take charge of it, having a considerable quantity of goods in it of various kinds to the amount of more than fifteen hundred pounds, the door being left in this situation from teusday until the Saturday following, and many other unlawful proceedings, such as taking men by force, tying them to Horses, draging them on the ground, and takeing Horses and Beeves without the owner's knowledge.

We, therefore, consider ourselves and our fellow-citizens much opprest by such arbitrary proceedings. We, therefore, hope you will take the matter under your serious consideration. We would refer you to the inclos'd depositions for further proof, but should it be thought necessary to make further inquiry, hope you will appoint Gentlemen that are no ways interested; for should a Court be composed of the officers of this District, we should have no hopes that Justice wou'd be had, as they are all Generally in the same predicament with those complained of. The consequence of such proceedings are that the people are in great confusion and a number of suits commenced, and threats by Patterson against publick authority should any Damages be recovered against him for his conduct, to defend it by building a block-house in order to defend his property. We therefore pray that the said Todd and Patterson may be cashier'd, as we conceive they are dangerous men to government—that they are the principal persons that have been the cause of so many unlawful acts, in this county in particular.

We are, Sir, your most ob't Humble Serv'ts, &c., &c., &c., &c.

DAVID ROSS TO ———,

December 11th
Arrowfield

In regard to his claim against "the Public," as adjusted in June, 1786, by Messrs. Carrington & Logwood, in which certain allowances for ground rent, wood for coal, woods, pasturage and ground injured by brick-making, at the Point of Fork, had been allowed him. He has been informed the entire claim had been reduced to £150, and begs it be reconsidered, in as much as he cannot "be bound nor required to yeild to a decision" upon his property upon any other than fair and just principles. To these he will cheerfully submit.

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1786. THE TWO HOUSES OF THE LEGISLATURE

December 11th — Request by joint Resolution that the Executive lay their Journal and proceedings before the General Assembly.

December 12th — EXTRACTED FROM A LETTER

From a gentleman in Kentucky from his Friend in Philadelphia:

Philadelphia — Clarke is playing Hell. He is raising a Regiment of his own, and has 140 men stationed at Opost, already now under the command of Dalton. Seized on a Spanish Boat with 20,000 Dollars, or rather seized three stores at Opost worth this sum, and the Boat which brought them up. J. R. Jones, Commissary General, gets a large share of the plunder, and has his family at Opost. Platt comes in for snacks. He brought the baggage and a thousand pounds of small furs to the Falls the day I left it. Plunder all. ——— means to go to Congress to get the Regiment put upon the establishment. He is the 3d Captain. The Furs, he tells his associates, are necessary to bear his expences; but he don't return. I laid a plan to get the whole seized and secured for the owners, and Bullett and Anderson will execute it. Clarke is eternally drunk, and yet full of design. I told him he would be hanged. He laughed and said he could take refuge among the Indians. A stroke is meditated against St. Louis and the Natchez.

December 13th — BENJAMIN LOGAN, COUNTY LIEUT. TO GOV. EDMUND RANDOLPH.

May it Please Your Excellency:

Lincoln county, Kentucky — I have had the opertunity to be in company with General Clarck since his return from the Expedition on the north west side of the Ohio River. He informs me he has agreed with the cheifs of the western tribes that Hostilities should cease untill the first day of April next, at which time he had apointed to hold a treaty with the Nations at the Opost, and that he had order'd an Officer to Recruit two hundred and fifty men, which orders was nearly comply'd with. Those men were to keep possession of an American garison at that place, and to keep the Indians in teror untill a treaty. These Proceedings, I think, was Wise and Prudent. He also made Aplication to me, as the Eldest Officer in the District of Kentuckey, to call a Board of Feild Officers, in order to procure provitions for the Troops on the North west side of Ohio. I, Aledging myself not Possest of any such Power, I declined that Business, but thinks my duty to lay this subject before Your Excellency, hoping you and Counsel will do what you think in your Wisdom is best.

I have the Honour to be your Excellency's

Obed. and H'ble Serv't, &c., &c.

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TO HIS EXCELLENCY, EDMUND RANDOLPH, ESQ., GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA. 1786.

The Petition of the Subscribers, Justices of the Peace for the county of Princess Anne, Humbly Shew, That Argyle, a negro slave belonging to Samuel Moseley, of the said County, was lately, at a court of Oyer and Terminer, Tried and condemned to be Hanged for Robbing a Pedlar by the name of Calamico Dominico, of Thirty Shillings and sundry goods and chattels. And as the said slave is young, Pentitent, and valuable to his said Master, and was never before Tried or Whipped for any Publick Offence, Your Petitioners, who sat on the Trial, Therefore Humbly recommend him as an Object of Mercy, and pray unto your Excellency to grant him a Pardon. December 14th Kempsville

CHARLES WILLIAMSON,
JOHN CORNICK,
CASON MOORE,
LEM'L CORNICK.

CHAS. YARBROUGH TO GOV'R RANDOLPH. December 14th

Having seen by an advertisement in the public papers that the place of Commissary of Military Stores at the Point of Fork was vacant, he becomes a candidate for that position.

ELIAS LANGHAM, CITIZEN OF FREDERICK CO., TO GOV. RANDOLPH, December 16th

Applying for the post of Commissary of Military Stores at the Point of Fork, giving testimonials, &c. He joined the Army as a private early in 1777, and from his gallant conduct was promoted by Gen'l Green to a Commission in the Artillery Reg't commanded by Colo. Harrison. Richmond

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY RESOLUTION December 16th

Request the Executive to lay before them the Instructions sent to the district of Kentucky respecting the late expeditions against the Indians, and the returns they may have received from the officers commanding.

Memoranda.—On the 4th day of October, 1779, Colonel David Rogers' Party was defeated on the Ohio River between the mouth of Licking Creek and the Little Miami, and himself Killed or Wounded, so that he died, as he never got to our Settlements, nor was he among the Prisoners taken. December 16th

JOHN CAMPBELL.

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1786. MAJOR ROGERS

December 16th — Was killed on the 4th October, 1779. He had with him two Batteaux loaded with Cloths, some Medicines, &c., the property of the Commonwealth of Virginia, one of which was lost.

December 16th — AT A GENERAL COURT HELD, &C.,

Richmond — Certain criminals, having been tried respectively, were sentenced to be punished as follows: Two from Parish of Russell, in Bedford and Franklin Counties, three years in the Penitentiary for Horse-stealing; three from the Parish of Suffolk, in the Co. of Nansemond, to be executed for murder; and one from Parish of St. James, in County of Mecklenburg, to be hanged for Burglary.

From Russell Parish, Franklin Co., another for horse-stealing, but whose sentence had been commuted from death to hard labour, but who had escaped, and was subsequently captured—by a Jury, was ordered to be hanged, &c.

From the Parish of Elizabeth River, in Norfolk County, several for felony were "severally burnt in the hand by the Jailer in presence of the Court, and afterwards remanded to prison, there to remain one year.

December 17th — BENJ. LOGAN, CO. LIEUT., TO GOV'R ED. RANDOLPH.

May it Please Your Excellency:

Lincoln county — You will find by the Inclos'd Papers that on Sept. 14th, 1786, I receiv'd orders to collect a sufficient number of men in the District of Kentucky to march against the Shawnee's Towns. Agreeable to s'd orders I collected 790 men, and on the 6th of October I attact'd the above-mentioned Towns, killed ten of the cheifs of that nation, captur'd thirty-two Prisoners, Burnt upwards of two Hundred Dwelling houses, and supos'd to have Burnt fifteen Thousand Bushels of Corn, took some Horses and Cattle, kill'd a number of Hoggs, and took near one Thousand Pounds value of Indian furniture, and the quantity of furniture we Burnt I cannot Account for it. The militia that was under my Command was not above Twenty-seven days on duty, and I think one-half of them was not Twenty days on duty. Nearly five Hundred of those men Rode their own Horses and carried their own provitions, and from my orders were not entitled to have any interest in the service of a Public Horse. The Expedition was carried on in a Rapped manner, and I would Venture to say the Expences will be found to be very moderate.

I have the Honour to be your Excellency's

Obe't, Hu'ble Serv't, &c., &c.

Papers referred to above.

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CAMP NEAR CLARKSVILLE, SEPT. 13th, 1786. 1786.

The Feild officers appointed to Command the militia from the different Counties in the District, on the Expedition lately plann'd in Consequence of Instructions from the Executive, being Convened in Council by the General, came to the following resolutions, to-wit: That we conceive the number of men is too small to execute the plans originally Intended, but at the same time recommend that the army be marched under the direction of the General; That a field officer from each County return and procure all the Delinquents and Deserters within his County, and one-half of the Militia not before drafted, and have them at rendezvous, at Clarksville, on the 28th Inst., with twenty days' Provisions, and procure, by Impressment or otherwise, every necessary supply and Equipment, and that they, after the Rendezvous, proceed as quick as may be to Opost. December 17th

That the officers who return, as well as those who may be left behind, consider themselves engaged in a common cause, and give every aid to each other, without as well as within their respective Counties, to carry into execution the Intent of these resolves.

BENJAMIN LOGAN, *Pres't.*

That Col. Ben. Logan, Col. Levi Todd, Col. Cox, Col. Smith, Col. Kennedy, Col. Pope, Major Lewis be appointed to return to execute the present plan.

CLARKSVILLE, 14th September, 1786.

Sir:

In consequence of a Council held in camp yesterday, You are to return with an officer from each county of the District of Kentucky to execute the orders of the said Council, which I hope will be put in force, as far as relates to the men and provisions, but instead of returning to this place take the most convenient Rout and attack the Shawonies, if you find you have a sufficient force, as they have violated the Treaty with the United States held at Miami. Their attention is on me at present, and it may perhaps be in your power to do your country great and essential service.

I am, Sir, Y'rs, &c.,

G. R. CLARK.

COL. BENJ. LOGAN,
Or to the eldest officer in the District.

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1786. MAJOR —— DE KLAUMAN TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH,

December 18th

Asking to be appointed Commissary of Military Stores at Point of Fork, having acted in that capacity as successor to *Col. de la Loyante in the year 1778. He had filled the office until 1779, when it was abolished by the Gen'l Assembly, and he assigned to the management of the Board of War.

December 18th EDM'D PENDLETON TO GOV. EDM'D RANDOLPH,

Edmundsberry

Introducing and recommending his friend and neighbor, Mr. Wm. Fauntleroy Gray, for the place of Commissary of Military Stores at Point of Fork.

December 19th GOV. ED. RANDOLPH TO THE HON'BLE THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Sir:

In Council

In pursuance of a late resolution of the general assembly I do myself the honor of enclosing all the returns and letters concerning the Indian Expedition except the advice of Council, which now lies before your house in the journals, and is to be found by consulting the index.

December 19th RICH'D TRENELL, JOS. CROCKETT, JOHN JOUITT, AND. HYNES AND JOHN FOWLER, TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Expressing great concern in regard to the danger of transporting the Stores intended for the District of Kentucky, whereby the Laudable intention of the Legislature may be frustrated. They recommend a part of the public stores on hand be carried to Fort Pitt or Redstone; from thence down the Ohio with the spring floods. By this measure being adopted, they may be received in the District before the Savages take the field. If the delay of purchasing them be allowed, the time will not suffice for transporting them. If they are sent thro' the wilderness the Chicamauga and Cherokee tribes of Indians will have information, and will give them an opportunity to waylay the road and intercept the same.

* * * * * * * * * *

Should these stores miscarrie in either of the routs pointed out, the loss will, we fear, endanger the Destruction of a considerable part of the West-

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*This was the officer who brought to Virg'a the long, bronze thirty-two pounder guns, six of which were to be seen in the Armory Grounds at Richmond, just before the late war of the sections, and two of which are now at the Military Institute at Lexington, Va. Originally there were eleven, and there is reason to believe several now lie at the bottom of the Pamunky River, near Hanover Town.

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ern Country. The lead, we think, might be sent thro' the wilderness, and the balance of the stores immediately to the Monongohalia. If this Plan is adopted, we wish that the Law Books and all other Public Papers be packed up and sent with that part of the stores which will be moved from this place to the Ohio. 1786. December 19th

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CAPT. WM. PRICE, CLERK AT THE POINT OF FORK, December 19th

Applies to the Executive for the position of Commissary of Military Stores at that post—is strongly recommended by Capt. Jno. Peyton, Robt. Lewis and others—entered the a'my in 1778, and served through the war—had been in the public service ever since the conclusion of the war.

LEONARD COOPER TO GOV. RANDOLPH. December 20th

His necessitous condition is his apology for the liberty he takes in addressing the Governor. He is constrained to become a candidate for the place of Commissary of Mill Stores at Point of Fork, then vacant. He had been advised to make this application by friends who appreciated the peculiarities of his situation, and adds: "I make no doubt you have been informed of the great disadvantage I labour under on acc't of the Loss of my Leg, which I unfortunately lost in a Dispute with a brother officer, and the nature of which Excludes me from the usual pension allowed to Other Invalid Officers and Soldiers Belonging to this State," &c. Richmond

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MEMORIAL OF COL. DANL. DUVAL, December 20th

Applying for the vacant post of Commissary of Mil. Stores at Point of Fork, and giving narrative of his services as follows: "Being early impressed with the merit and justice of our cause, I became a volunteer under Patrick Henry, Esquire, when the conduct of Lord Dunmore made it necessary to have recourse to arms in the year 1775; after which, I enlisted the same year in the minute Service under the command of my Brother, Wm. Duval, in which I remained till I was appointed by the Committee of Henrico, 1776, an Ensign in Capt. John Pleasants' Company of the 5th Virginia Regiment. After marching and Couter-marching to Various parts of the State, a General Rendezvous took place at Norfolk, whilst we remained there inactive. I turned out a volunteer, with a number of men, to act as Marines on Board the Rawleigh Privateer (Capt. Cox). After cruising sometime in our Bay, upon my return to Norfolk, I met with some gentlemen from Georgia, who had obtained permission to Raise troops in Virginia for the Defence of that State, which was threatened with immediate Destruction by the British in Flo-

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1786. December 20th. rida and the Creek Indians on the Frontiers. Finding that nothing had been done by our Troops, who still remain'd inactive, I accepted an appointment in the Georgia Service, raised my Quota of men and marched into the State, where I remained until the last of 1777, when, finding everything easy and Peaceable, I resigned the command of the forts upon the frontiers, which I had been honoured with, and after which my Commission in that line, and accompanied Gen'l McIntosh to the northward, when more buisy scenes were Daily to be met with. I was recommended to his Excellency, Gen'l Washington, for an appointment by Gen'l McIntosh and the Baron de Steuben, 1778. But as an Establishment or regulation of the army had just taken place, the Officers were justly so tenacious of their rank that they would not suffer any Individual to Supercede them in Command, and there being at that time a redundancy of Officers, I attached myself to the Baron de Steuben's family until I had an opportunity of a command in the army, which happened after my supporting myself two or three years, in the character of an aid-de-camp, by the institution of the Corps of Sappers and Miners, in which I was appointed to the command of a company after an examination of my mathematical knowledge by Gen'l Du Portail (Cheif Engineer). The officers of the corps were intended to be the future Engineers of the States. In the year 1780 I obtained leave of absence to return to Virginia, where I arrived a few days before Arnold made his appearance in our Bay, and at the request of his Excellency, Governor Jefferson, was induced to take command of the Militia, as did many of the Regular Officers at that time, which occasioned my loss of commutation, for in consequence of my not returning to camp at the time limited, I was superceded in my command.

* * * * * * *

I rec'd a Letter from Gen'l Du Portail, importing that unless I returned at a certain Day he should consider my absence a resignation, &c., which letter I did not receive untill the time fixed for my return had expired.

* * * * * * It would be needless to trouble your Excellency by inserting the various fatigues and hardships I experienced during a winter campaign without Tents, and often the necessaries of Life, * * * * * * * which had such an Effect upon my Constitution that my Life was despaired of more than once by my Physicians. Tho' exceedingly low, I was present during the seige of York, and performed my duties in the Lines. In addition to these military services he had lost three valuable horses in the campaign of 1781, and during the war almost his entire patrimony. He concludes by reminding the Governor that he is peculiarly fitted for the office for which he is applying, having performed the duties of an assistant ordnance officer with Gen'l Steuben for near three years.

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RESOLUTION PASSED 1786.

Authorizing the Executive of Virginia to allow adequate compensation to Paul Loyall, Thomas Brown, and Thomas Newton, as Commissioners for the defence of Chesapeake Bay. December 21st

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THOMAS BOWNE TO THE GOVERNOR, December 22d

Making application for the vacant post of ordnance officer at Point of Fork, and enclosing testimonials from David Jameson and Thomas Nelson, J'n'r, that at the commencement of the war he was one of the foremost volunteers, afterwards entered the 1st Va. Regiment, was promoted to captaincy from his individual merit, having never been out of active service from the Banks of the North River to the unfortunate surrender of Charlestown. York

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SAM'L HUNTINGTON, GOV. OF CONNECTICUT, TO GOV. RANDOLPH, OF VIRG'A. December 23d

Sir:

I am honored with your Excellency's letter of the first Instant, enclosing the act of your Legislature appointing Commissioners to assemble in Convention at Philadelphia in May next, for the purposes therein mentioned, and shall embrace the earliest opportunity to lay these papers before the Legislature of this State. Norwich, Conn

With Sentiments of Esteem and Respect,

I have the honor to be your Excellency's

obedient, humble servant, &c., &c.

PROCLAMATION OF GOV. EDM'D RANDOLPH, December 23d

Outlawing certain prisoners escaped, &c., in accordance with act of Assembly of Oct., 1785, by which it is declared "It shall be lawful for any person to kill, or in any manner destroy, such outlaw (that is, a person outlawed as above) without being liable to any pain or penalty for so doing.

WM. GRAYSON AND ED. CARRINGTON, DELEGATES TO CONGRESS, TO GOV. RANDOLPH. December 24th

Sir:

* * * * * * * * * *

There being no Congress as yet, application cannot be made to that body for the military stores wanted for the western country, nor is New York

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1786. December 24th

there reason to suppose they would consent to furnish them as the property of the United States for any object under the direction of a particular State; several applications of this kind have been made and uniformly refused. It is thought that any one instance of issuing the stores of the Union for a State purpose would introduce a practice destructive of that economy which is essential to the interests and safety of the whole.

We are fully in sentiment with your Excellency that our western troubles demand, in their nature, the interposition of the arms of the Union, but Congress have been tried upon this point and have determined differently. It is probable the Secretary at war may be authorized to sell the supply your Excellency proposes to purchase, &c.

We have the Honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obed't Serv'ts, &c., &c.

December 24th

PETITION OF SUNDRY INHABITANTS OF SAID COUNTY TO THE EXECUTIVE,

Mecklenburg county

For the pardon of one Ephraim Andrews, condemned to death for Burglary, setting forth his youth, his services in the late war, his having lost three brothers in the war—he alone being left to support his aged parents—and urging as additional reason that under the present Laws (authorizing a commutation of capital punishments for those crimes formerly esteemed capital) a great number of persons on equal or greater convictions have been either wholly discharged, or punished agreable to the mildness and moderation of the present scale of prevailing politics.

December 24th

W. FOUSHEE, J. MARSHALL AND ROB'T BOYD,

Public jail

At the request of the Executive, having examined into the mental capacity and soundness of mind of one James Goss, report him as ignorant and stupid to a great degree, but is neither an Idiot or Insane, and is a competent judge of Right from Wrong.

December 25th

JOHN BLAIR TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

Williamsburg

I lately received by Mr. Attorney-General your Excellency's letter of the 6th current, communicating my appointment as a member of the Committee which is to meet at Philadelphia in May next for the purpose of revising the confederation; also inclosing the resolutions of the two houses of General Assembly for that purpose.

The confidence with which I am thus honoured demands every return

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it may be in my power to make, and I will cheerfully undertake the duty thus confered upon me without yielding to any impediments but those of the first magnitude. 1786. December 25th

If any motive, after a nomination so flattering to me, could increase my willingness to act in the line assigned me, I beg leave to assure you, Sir, it would be the wish your Excellency is pleased to express that I would accept the appointment.

With the greatest respect
I am your Excellency's most obed. Servant.

ESTIMATE MADE BY COL. THOS. MERIWETHER December 26th

Of the cost of transportation of arms from the Point of Fork, on James River, Fluvanna Co., Va., to Redstone, on the Monongahela River, when Mr. Jouett would take charge of them until delivered at the place of deposite on Dick's River, viz:

A Keeled boat, constructed to ascend the Kentucky River, and calculated to carry the arms, a guard of 12 men and provisions	£ 30
A guard of 12 men at £5 each, including their provisions	£ 60
His own expences while at Redstone, and a stock of Liquor for the Boat's crew	10
	£ 100

The boat to be sold.

LETTER FROM CHAS. SIMMS, ESQ'R, TO JOHN HARVIE, ESQ'R, AT RICHMOND, December 26th

Postage prepaid and marked 5d. 8p., this being the charge at this date between these two places. Alexandria

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THOMAS HATCHER TO EDMUND RANDOLPH, GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA. December 28th

Honour'd Sir:

I saw at our last Court a letter directed to that Body to make all Enquiry on Oath respecting my Conduct and W. H. Miller's at the preceeding Court. I was insulted, and confess I did not (owing to that) behave with the Reverance I would wish to have done to a Court; but, Sir, if my Representatives cannot sattisfy You and Council let me be cited to make my Defence, with time to do so. Goochland county

I am sorry to say I doubt there is a party who wishes to oust me out of their way; all I want is, if my Representatives cannot sattisfie You as to my conduct as a Justice, let me be cited to appear, and give me time.

I am, Sir, Your ob't Serv't.

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1786. COL. BENJ. LOGAN TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

December 30th

May it Please your Excellency:

Lincoln county

From the Different Complaints made to myself on the late Expedition, which I had the Honour to command, on the Northwest side of the Ohio River, I begg the Liberty to lay before your Excellency the following complaint, which is: Colo. Hugh Magary complain'd that Colo. Robert Patterson and Colo. James Trotten had Impress'd one Barrel of Rum at Limestone, when the Troops crossed the Ohio River, and by so doing and drinking part of the same and puting part of the remainder on public Horses, and having twenty Beeves shot down without orders from the Commanding officers, or making aplication for provisions to the Commesary, and he present, was the means of delaying the Army more than one day. He furder complain'd that Colo. Trotter gave his men Positive Orders to shoot down any man that kill'd an Indian after he was captur'd, and said orders was given in time of action and not known what might be the consequences of the ingagement.

Colo. Robert Patterson and Colo. James Trotter complained Colo. Hugh Magary murder'd a Indian named Molanthy after he was captur'd, who was king of that nation. Both parties required a Court Martial on the differen. Ocations. I must beg leave to observe that I could, by no means, order Court martiels on these complaints, for reasons it apear'd to me, which was: the officers would have been too warm on each party and, perhaps, Justice might not been done. I therefore hope your Excellency will order a Court not concerned in these disputes. I hope you will please to give a answer on this ocation, &c.

I have the Honnour to be your Excellensy's
obed't and Humble Serv't, &c., &c.

December 30th

BOND OF R. SAYERS OF MONTGOMERY CO.,

John Trigg, of Bedford Co., and Joseph Crockett, of Kentucky, in the penalty of one thousand pounds specie, contracting to remove 400 lbs. Gun Powder from the City of Richmond, and 12,000 lbs. of Lead from Jas. McGavock's, at Fort Chiswell, in Montgomery Co., to John Anderson's, at the block house, in Sullivan Co., in the State of N. Carolina, on or before the 20th day of February next.

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BOND OF GEORGE RICE AND JOHN HARVIE, 1786.

In the penalty of two thousand pounds specie, contracting to remove five hundred stand of arms with bayonets affixed thereto from the Public Arsenal at Point of Fork to Red Stone, Old Fort, on the Monongahela River, on or before the 15th day of March next, to be delivered to Mr. John Jouett, &c. December 30th

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*GEORGE ROGERS CLARK TO GOV. HENRY, OF VA. December

Sir:

This will be handed you by Colo. Logan. He will inform you of the unfortunate affair Revotistion of the army. Various Reports, no doubt, hath spread Respecting this affair, but, Sir, that the truth may appear, you will pardon me in Recommending a Court of inquiry as soon as possible. Without something of this nature takes place, it will be in vain to attempt anything for the future. After the Retreat serious Reflections convinced me that the State of our affairs would be wors than ever, if something was not done. I had a number of troops Recruited for one year, fortified myself in St. Vincens, and in the course of four weaks brought the whole of the Ouabache Indians to my own terms, Blinding the cause of the Retreat and eaven making an advantage of it. The Grand Treaty would have been held this Fall if we had have known what articles to have agread to; for the want of that knowledge from Congress it's put of untill the last of Apriel next, to be held at St. Vincent, and is thought by the best Judges That the greatest body of indians that ever appeared together in that Quarter will be Imbodied. Now what will be Done in this case it is Impossible for me to determine. If it is Prosicuted, there must be a support of men, money, and provitions. What the Different nations and my self have agread to, is to rest Quiet untill that time, when it is Expected that a final peace will take place. I should have sent you the whole Proceedings if they had come to hand, but being sent by water the Vessell hath not yet arived, of course put it out of my power. And as to the Shawoney business and other matters, I refer you to Colo. Logan for Information.

I am, S'r, y'r Excellency's H'ble Serv't, &c., &c.

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*Bears impression, in wax, of his private seal (G. R. C.).

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1786. *May it Please Your Honor and the Honorable House of Delegates:*

December Northampton county Petition of the Gingaskin Indians

We, the Indians of the *Lingaskin Tribe, having always manifested an attachment to the present Government, tho' at Times, on account of our Indigency, have been prevented from presenting our homage as is requested. But still our attachment is and has been always the same, which we hereby in the strongest manner affirm to be true, but we are exceedingly allarmed at some late proceedings of some of the Gentlemen of this County of Northampton, on being informed of their designing to petition your Honor and the Honorable House of Delegates for a Law to enforce us from abiding or cultivating any longer our native Land, where with the all providing omnipotent being of the Universe possess'd us with. It must be remembered on Record that but a small pittance was allowed us of our wide-extended territories for our subsistence, and small as it is, we understand, by the application of some or one gentleman who claims it as his right, it is perhaps to be wrested from being possess'd by your allready much distressed and unhappy petitioners; but confiding in the Justice and equity of our claim, as well as the wisdom and candor of your Honor and the Honorable House of Delegates, very well knowing that the inherent Rights of mankind must be altered, altho' a Superior Power may usurp them, but still is and will be the same, unless alienated by the Possession. But we, the aforementioned Tribe of the Lingaskin, entirely relying on the well-known Justice and Humanity of your Honor and the Honorable House of Delegates, Humbly and submissive request that the petition of the Gentlemen who intend to deprive us of the inherent Right of possession of our native Land may be rejected, and their desire not granted, and your Petitioners shall ever, as in duty bound, pray.

We are with profound submission, in all Humility and allegiance,
Your Honor's and the Honorable House of Deligates'
most devoted and most Humble Servants,

THE TRIBE OF THE LINGASKIN.

*As early as October, 1660, upon complaint being made by the Indians of Accawmacke (afterwards changed to Northampton), that their lands were encroached upon by the English, it was ordered that the Governor commission two or three gentlemen from the western side of the Bay, to go over and lay out a sufficiency of land for their maintainance, and that this land should be so secured to the Indians that it should not be alienated to the English, &c., and in 1631, in an order made forbidding, on penalty of severe punishment, any intercourse with Indians on the part of the whites, exception was made in favor of those on the Eastern Shore, with whom the planters were required to be on the most sociable terms.

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ACCOUNT OF ONE YEAR'S EXPENCES OF THE STATE SCHOONER PATRIOT, JAS. BARRON, COMMANDER, PAYMASTER AND FURNISHER OF PROVISIONS: 1786.

Schooner Patriot Expenses of

	£	s.	d.
James Barron, @ 16s. 8d. per Day, 365 Days	304.	3.	4.
Saml. Barron, Lieut., @ 6s. p'r day, 2s. subsist	146.	0.	0.
John Gibson, Gun'r, @ 4£ p. mo	48.	0.	0.
Mark Sterling, Pilot, @ 80£ p'r year	80.	0.	0.
James Rudd, Boatswain, @ £4 p. mo	48.	0.	0.
Five Seamen, @ 3£ p'r mo	180.	0.	0.
Peter Linsay, ord'y Seaman, @ 40s	24.	0.	0.
Jas. Barron, a Lad, @ 30s	18.	0.	0.
Jack Knight, a public negro, for Cloaths	5.	0.	0.
Half of ye Doctor's Expenses, @ 60£ p. year	30.	0.	0.
13 Rations p. Day, 365 Days, 4,745 @ 10d	197.	13.	4.
Ware and Tar of Sails, rigging, Anchors, Cabels, Materials for Cleaning, &c., &c	144.	0.	0.
	£ 1,224.	16.	8.

BOAT LIBERTY.

Boat Liberty Expenses of

	£	s.	d.
Michael James, Commander, @ 6s. p'r day, 2s. subsist	146.	0.	0.
1 Master's Mate act'g as Lieut, @ 4s. p'r Day, 1s. subsist.,	90,	0.	0.
John Ewing, Pilot, @ 4s. p'r day	72.	0.	0.
Edward Bully, Boatswain, 4£ p'r mo	48.	0.	0.
Stephen Dunton, Gun'r, @ 4£ p'r mo	48.	0.	0.
Three Seamen @ £3 p'r month	108.	0.	0.
Michael Dixon, ord'y Seaman, 36s. per month	21.	12.	0.
Mathew Cook, a Lad, @ 30s. p'r month	18.	0.	0.
Half ye Doctor's Expenses, @ 60£ p'r ann	30.	0.	0.
Will. Bush, public negro, for Cloaths	5.	0.	0.
11 Rations p. Day, 365 Days, @ 10d	167.	2.	8.
Ware and Tar, &c	120.	0.	0.
	£ 873.	14.	8.

ESTIMATE OF AMOUNT OF TAX TO BE RAISED BY VIRGINIA,

Made by her Delegates in Congress under the Law for imposing new Taxes, &c., to supply a deficiency of 434,582$\frac{1}{9}$ dolls., and sources of taxation enumerated, viz:

1,600 Coach and Chariot wheels, supposing 80 Counties to contain 20 each, including Cities and Towns, at 5 dols. each,	8,000
1,600 wheels of other 4-wheeled carriages at 3 dols.	4,800
800 do. do. 2-wheeled carriages at 1 dol.	800

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1786.

The Clerk of the Court of Appeals, supposing his fees to be worth 300 dols., 1/3d thereof	100
Ditto of the High Court of Chancery 500 dols.	166 2/3
Ditto of the Gen'l Court 3,000 dols	1,000
The Clerks of 80 County Courts, 800 dols. each, 64,000 dols., 1/3d thereof	21,333 1/3
Ditto of 6 Corporation Courts, at 500 dols. each, 3,000	1,000
200 Lawyers' fees in the Court of Appeals at £5, £1,000, =3,333 1/3 dols. at 10 p. ct	333 1/3
500 do. in the Ct. of Chancery at 5£, £2,500,=8,333 1/3 at 10 p'r ct	833 1/3
4,000 do. in the Gen'l Court at 50s., £10,000,=333.33 1/3 at 10 p'r ct	3,333 1/3
80,000 do. in 80 County Courts at 15s., £60,000,=200,000 dols.,	20,000
1,500 do. in the 6 Corporation Courts at 15s., £1,175,=3,750 dols.	375
400 Physicians, Surgeons and Apothecaries, at 5£ each, £2,000	6,666 2/3
2,000 improved lots at 100£ each, £200,000, equal to 666,666 2/3 dols. at 5 p'r ct	33,333 1/3
320 Retail Merchants, Native and Privileged, in Norfolk, Alexandria, Fredericksburg, Richm'd and Petersburg, at 5£ each	5,333 1/3
320 do. in 80 Counties and the small Towns	5,333 1/3
50 foreign ditto at 20£ each	3,333 1/3
Deduct the Tax on improved lots in Norfolk. Suppose 100 at 100£ each, £100,000 at 5 p'r ct	1,666 2/3
2 p. ct. duty, say 30,000 dols.:	
Deduct for expences of delegates in Congress, allowing credits for non-attendance 6,000	
For the Public buildings 20,000	
26,000 leaves	4,000
	118,408 1/3
Deficiency by the statement of the committee	434,582 1/3
	316,173 1/3
6s. p. hhd. on Tob. for the requisition of Oct., 1786, which being repealed, the fund is to go to gen'l requisitions	50,000
Still deficient	266,173 1/3

There may have been more carriages than are rated in this estimate at the time the Tax was imposed, but it is to be considered that there will be many evasions, and indeed retrenchments in the article.

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THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL 1786.

Appointed agreeably to the Law for reforming certain Public Boards, have visited and examined the Auditor's and Solictor's offices, and do report as follows:

The Committee first examined the Auditor's office and found the Books properly kept, with the exception of certain irregularities, growing out of defects in the Laws.

The Committee are sensible that it will be impossible for them to lay before the Executive a perfect state of the Public Offices under their inspection in the course of one month, but beg leave to point out such irregularities as they have observed, together with the causes of them, so far as they have been able to obtain Information.

Previous to the act of 1778, for establishing a Board of Auditors, sums of money were advanced to many different persons, no acc't of which appears upon the Auditor's Books, it not being the practice, antecedent to that period, to keep any account with Individuals. And in consequence of the destruction of public papers, It cannot now be determined whether the monies so advanced have been accounted for, tho' the Sums, and the Persons who received them, may be discovered by the Receipt-Books at the Treasury.

The Committee find that many of the Escheater's accounts remain open at this Day, and they are apprehensive it will be difficult, if not impossible, to have them Properly closed. The act concerning Escheats and forfietures from British Subjects, requires the Governour, with advice of Council, to appoint two Commissioners to superintend the conduct of the Escheaters at each Sale, whose particular Duty it shall be to certify to whom and for how much such sale was made, and to transmit such certificate to the Auditers, which certificate shall be legal Evidence against the Escheators. But the Law having subjected the Commissioners to no penalty for any failure in their Duty, they have in some cases neglected to make any Return at all of the Amount of Sales, so that the Auditers have been obliged to rely upon the report of the Escheaters themselves for the Debits which have been exhibited against them. Indeed, no Demand for the payment of any Balances which appeared upon the Books under this Head can be now supported, the Law requiring the Certificate of the Commissioners as the Legal Evidence against the Escheaters, which Certificates, in consequence of the Loss of the papers of the office, can be produced in no case during the Æra of paper money. These circumstances render it not improbable that in some Instances the Commissioners may have neglected to return the Amount of Sales, and the Escheators to make payments, as there appears to be only twenty-eight Escheators known to the Auditors. The Committee farther find that frequently the Accounts of Sheriffs are blank. This may be attributed in some cases to the failure of the Commissioners of the Tax to render to the Auditors an

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1786. Account of the Taxes due, so that no debits could be entered against the Sheriffs. In other cases Returns had been made agreeble to Law previous to the Invasion by Arnold, which returns being destroyed by the Enemy before any Entries were made upon them in the Auditor's Books, and the Commissioners, supposing they had performed their duty, no papers were preserved from which duplicates could be made out.

The Committee observe, that in some Instances where accounts have been long since finally adjusted they are not closed up on the Auditor's Books. This Error may be ascribed to a want of proper communication between the different public offices, of which the following will serve as Examples: Mr. Ross, as Commercial Agent, stands charged with very large Sums of paper money, besides Tobacco and other things, whilst he appears to have no credits whatever, notwithstanding he accounted for all the Public Property which had been confided to him; and there appeared upon a settlement before a Committee appointed by the Executive to be a large balance due him from the Public. All the Books and Papers of the Commercial Agent's office have been put into the Hands of the Solicitor, without any directions to him to furnish the Auditors with the information necessary for establishing the proper credits. This account must remain open. A similar Irregularity is observable in the Account raised against Mr. George Webb as Treasurer. He appears by the Auditor's Books to be a creditor of the Public to a considerable amount, although his accounts have been regularly settled and ballanced before a Committee of the General Assembly. This may be accounted for from the following causes:

1st. Persons lending money to the Public and paying it into the Treasury, neglecting to return their Receipts to the Auditors, the proper Debits were not entered against Mr. Webb.

2ndly. All warrants drawn by the Auditors were immediately passed to the credit of Mr. Webb, which, in numberless Instances, were not paid until his successor came into office, by which means Mr. Webb has credit for money which Mr. Brooke actually paid.

3dly. The Auditors, upon opening their Books, omitted to charge Mr. Webb with the money he had on Hand at that Day. Indeed this irregularity must still continue, as the settlement of the Treasurer's Accounts are made only before a Committee of the Assembly by the Books kept at the Treasury office, so that the Auditors are uninformed of the amount of any Balances upon these Settlements. These causes will also account for Mr. Brooke's appearing to be a considerable Debtor to the Public, notwithstanding his accounts have been settled in the usual way.

It also appears to the Committee that large Sums of money have been advanced to sundry officers of the army under a Resolution of Assembly, which are not in all cases entered in the Account of Individual Officers. It cannot now, therefore, be ascertained whether these monies have been all accounted for, tho' a list of the sums and the names of the officers re-

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ceiving them, has been preserved, by which the Auditor for bringing up the old Books is now making the necessary Entries. 1786.

The Committee find that the Paper Money Books are all posted up to 7th of March, 1786.

But the Quantity of money called in under the different Laws cannot be known, as there are large sums lying in the Treasury not counted, of the amount of which the auditors have no knowledge.

Upon examining the Books containing the Specie Accounts, the Committee find the same system continued as was laid down for keeping the Money Books, and observe similar Irregularities, arising from such causes as have been already reported in the case of Paper Money, except that in no instance since the Institution of the Solicitor's Office, the Commissioners for collecting the Taxes have been entered in the Auditor's Books to the credit of the Sheriffs, and that the Escheators' Accounts, so far as they are posted up, have been all properly closed.

The Committee do farther report that the proceedings of four months in the year 1784, are yet to Journalize; that those from Nov., 1783, to January, 1785, are not yet posted, and that the whole of the proceedings of 1785 are Journalized and posted up to the first of December. The Committee will have it in their power to say little of the Auditor's office under the present management, as the new Books are not yet fully opened. The Auditor for keeping public accounts, reports that he met with such difficulty in procuring Books proper for the Business of his office, that the Journal could only be began on the 13th Instant, and that the Ledger is still in the hands of the Bookbinder. In addition to which, he observes that two months of the Busiest Time in the Year was to new model; as to the different Heads of Accounts, no one of the former Board choosing to give any direction until it was known within whose Department that branch of the Business came. It appears to the Committee that the Auditor of Accounts has kept a fair register of all his proceedings, and that he hath carefully arranged and filed all accounts, receipts, and vouchers.

The Committee next turned their attention to the situation of the Soliciter's office, and conceiving the Account of this Commonwealth against the United States to be the most important object of their Inspection, they first enquired into the state in which that Business now stood, and find that—

1st. A General account of all Military Expenditures from September, 1775, to the last of December, 1781, has been copied in Books, which Books, from their commencement to the last of December, 1780, has been, as the Committee are informed by the Solicitor, compared by the Commissioner of Congress with the Treasurer's rec't Books, and each article noted for that particular Head of Charge to which it properly belonged. The several Articles so noted from the commencement of the Account to Septemb'r, 1777 (the period at which the Continental Scale of Depreciation begins), have been selected and stated separately under their proper heads, a copy of which is now ready to be delivered to the Commissioner

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1786. of the United States. It does not appear that any part of this account has been finally adjusted. For the reason of which the Committee begs leave to refer to a Letter from the Commissioner of Congress to Mr. L. Wood, dated March 20th, 1786. How far this Letter corresponds with the Instructions given the Commissioner by the Comptroller of the Treasurer, the Executive will be able to determine.

2ndly. The several articles, noted as above, from Sept., 1777, to December, 1780, have been likewise selected and stated under their proper Heads, but no duplicate copy has yet been taken, tho' it is begun.

3rdly. The General Account of Expenditures from December, 1780, to Decmber, 1781, is now to be proceeded on by the Commissioner, which will be a work of Time, as it is made indispensable that every article be examined with the original voucher, and the Receipts taken on the payment of each are to be seached for in the Treasurer's Receipt-Books.

4thly. The Demand of this State against the Continent on Account of Specifics, has been attempted to be stated from the Books of Mesrs. Jones & Carrington, Commissioners appointed to pass Accounts that had been allowed by the Courts of Claims, which accounts were cheifly for the Specific Articles Impressed and said to be applied to Continental purposes. This work is about one-third done, but the Solicitor does not propose to prosecute it farther unless he shall be specially directed to do so, as he conceives that it will be better first to fix the principles upon which the account is to be liquidated. This being done, It will be easy to make the remainder of the account conformable thereto. For the probability of this accounts being ever adjusted, the committee must again refer to Mr. Dunscomb's Letter.

The Committee find it impossible to Report upon the state of the General Business of the Solicitor's office, the ill-Health of Mr. Wood having prevented such communication with him as was necessary to obtain satisfactory information.

BEVERLY RANDOLPH,
SAMP. MATHEWS.

Lincoln county Resolution of committee of officers, &c.

Resolved, That a Letter be wrote to the Cheifs of the upper Cherokee towns informing them that the detachment sent out from this district in * february last, under the command of Col. John Logan, was not sent with any hostile Intentions against them, but against the Chickamogies, who depredate on and infest our South and South Eastern frontiers; that their falling in with and attacking a party of the Upper Cherokees was purely accidental, and that it was impossible to distinguish them from

* A man by the name of Luttrell having been killed by the Indians on Fishing Creek, Col. John Logan, of Lincoln Co., with a small body of militia, pursued, overtook and defeated the Indians, recaptured stolen property, and returned in triumph.

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the hostile Tribes of that nation, and at the same time to inform them that the Sufferings of that Party was not altogether unmerited, as our Detachment found in their Possession two Horses taken but a short time before from our People—to give every assurance to the s'd Cheifs and Warriors of our sincere Desire to live in peace and Harmony with the Cherokees, but to represent to them the Impossibility of so doing so long as the Chickamoggies (a part of their nation) are suffered by them to commit the most horrid outrages on our people—that, provoked to the last degree by repeated injuries, we are determined to take an exemplary revenge, unless they will either, of their own accord, take measures to reduce that lawless Tribe to order, or assist us in so doing; but in case they refuse to do the one or the other, that the blood which may be shed in our taking an indiscriminate revenge must lie on their own Heads. 1786.

A Copy—Teste,

G. J. JOHNSTON, *Cl'k Com'ee.*

Resolved, That Col. B. Logan be requested to write the Letter to the Cheifs of the Upper Cherokee Towns upon the subject of the foregoing resolve, and that the Chairman of this Committee write to Col. Logan informing him of this request, and inclose him a copy of these resolutions.

A Copy—Teste,

G. J. JOHNSTON, *Cl'k Com'ee.*

ACCOMAC, SHERIFF, PRAYS FOR RELIEF.

Petitions of sheriffs for relief on account of the people being unable to pay their taxes, &c.

Unable to collect the taxes on account of poverty of the people and scarcity of money.

Albemarle, Sheriff prays for stay of execution against him; finds it impossible to sell property for want of bidders.

Amherst, Sheriff prays for releif.

Augusta, Sheriff prays for releif; scarcity of money and extent of the county make it impossible for him to collect, &c.

Berkeley, Sheriff prays for releif; unable to collect the taxes on account of scarcity of money; impossibility of selling property distrained; the scarcity of grain and low price of tobacco.

Buckingham, Sheriff prays for releif.

Caroline, Sheriff reports the people unable to pay taxes, and when property is distrained upon no one will bid for it.

Charles City, Sheriff prays for releif, having received for taxes warrants for interest on the Continental loan.

Culpeper, Sheriff prays for releif.

Fairfax, Sheriff prays for releif.

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1786. Henry, Sheriff prays for releif. He has not collected the tax of 1783.

Louisa, Sheriff (Waddy Thompson) prays for releif; advanced money to the people. They combined to prevent sales of property under execution.

Mecklenburg, Sheriff prays for releif; impossible to sell property, &c.

Middlesex, Sheriff prays for releif.

Nansemond, Sheriff unable to collect taxes, owing to scarcity of money and high price of corn.

Princess Anne, Sheriff has been unable to collect taxes on account of scarcity of money and the temper of the people.

Pitsylvania, Sheriff prays for releif; no taxes collected on account of poverty of the people.

Rockingham, Sheriff prays for releif; people unable to pay.

York, Sheriff prays for releif, &c.

1787. JOHN CAMPBELL TO GOVERNOR EDMUND RANDOLPH.

Sir:

January 1st Richmond I have been considering the propriety of moving the House of Delegates respecting what is said about the sale of Publick Stores, both within and out of Doors, and would freely do it if my accusers would step forward and charge me with anything particular. * * * To stop the tongue of Slander is impossible, therefore, till the same accusation is brought forward I can do nothing. * * * * I have requested Mr. Stuart and Mr. Johnston both to bring forward an accusation, as they were the persons who said most in the House.

Your Excellency's
Most Obed't, Humble Serv't.

January 1st L. WOOD, SOLICITOR, TO EDMUND RANDOLPH, ESQ.

Relating to Col. Rogers' services: "I find a receipt in the treasury office dated 21st Jan'y, 1778, for six hundred and twenty-five pounds paid a David Rogers on account of secret services."

* * * * * * *

The gentleman who received this money was Senator from the Ohio District.

I find also that £200 was paid the 14th Jan'y, 1777, for one David Rogers, on account.

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A. DUNSCOMB TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. 1787.

Requests to wait on his Excellency previous to his seeing Mr. Baker, as some new, unexpected, and very unfavourable matters have been collected since yesterday afternoon. His Excellency will please to mention the time and place it will be agreeable for him to see. January 1st Richmond

A. D.

Sunday noon.

W. ALEXANDER TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH. January 2d

Denounces as a "criminal, of the first magnitude, William Watson—said to be a magistrate of Brunswick County, who came to my counting house last week, and sold, under the name of Jones, 27 forged inspection notes upon Manchester warehouse." * * * * * Richmond

He was pursued and captured, but made his escape. The aid of the Governor is requested to bring the culprit to justice.

DAVID CRAWFORD, January 4th

Late Sheriff of Amherst County, Petitions the Executive for remission of damages assessed against him for non-payment of taxes. Statement of the solicitor enclosed with the petition. Amherst county

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L. WOOD, SOLICITOR TO GOV. EDMUND RANDOLPH. January 5th

Sir:

On the first view of the account prepared for the Commissioners appointed to adjust this State's expenses, respecting the Illinois Country, I discovered that it was taken only from the Auditor's Books, which commenced Dec'r 1st, 1778, consequently the expenditures respecting the Frontiers in Kentucky and on the Ohio, all leading to the reduction of the Illinois, were totally omitted. This has induced me to go back with my enquiries to an earlier period, where a circumstance seems to perplex me, and which must entreat the Executive opinion whether the expenses of an Indian Expedition under Col. Christian, in the year 1776, are not properly chargeable to the Union in this account. Large sums of money were paid for this purpose, but for want of papers to refer to respecting that matter, I am at a loss to know the principles on which that Expedition was undertaken. Solicitor's office

With all respect, your Excellency's

most obe't and humble Serv't.

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1787. HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

January 6th House of Delegates

Resolved, That the Executive be empowered to enquire into the situation of persons confined in the public Jail at the suit of the Commonwealth, and to cause them to be set at Liberty without the usual proceedings in court, when it shall appear that their further confinement will be attended with no benefit to the public.

January 7th Hampton

JAS. BARRON TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

Your Excellency's letter, of the 21st of last month, came to hand yesterday, which I received on my return from Norfolk with part of the publick provisions. I have not been able to purchase one-half yett, owing to the scarcity of Pork. As soon as I can gett it I shall wait on your Excellency with the necessary papers and Information you direct me to do. This being the season for laying in pork, induces me to procure it before I come up, as I expect it will take a rise. I have bought 3,504 lbs., at twenty-seven shillings per Hundred, which is the lowest any has been sold for at Norfolk.

I have the honor to be, Sir, with great Respect,
your Excellency's most ob't Serv't.

January 8th Williamsburg

DUDLEY DIGGES TO HIS EXCELLENCY, ED. RANDOLPH, ESQ.,

Enclosing in his letter the following paper:

At a meeting of the Court of Directors, held at the Hospital, the 8th day of January, 1787—

Present: Dudley Digges (President), John Blair, James Madison, John D. Sequeyea, Robert Andrews, Henry Tazewell, and Joseph Hornsby, Esq.—

The court took into consideration the case of John Torner, brought to the Hospital from the county of Princess Anne, by virtue of a warrant under the hands and seals of John Hancock, Charles Williams, and William White, gentlemen, justices for the said county. And it appearing from the Depositions of Thomas Torner and Mary Torner, taken and returned by the said Justices, that the said John Torner is a person of insane and disordered mind, It is the opinion of the court that the said John Torner is insane and of disordered mind, and, therefore, a fit object to be received into the said Hospital, but the finances of the said Hospital being, at present, in such a situation as not to enable the Keeper to support any such objects, It is ordered that the said John Torner be returned to the county of Princess

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Anne untill the Public shall, by an advance of money, enable the Keeper of this Hospital to maintain such unhappy objects, of which due notice shall be given to the Public by this court. 1787. January 8th

Provided, Nevertheless, if the parents or Friends of the said John Torner will provide for his support and maintainance in the said Hospital, this Court will, at any time, receive him, and when their situation shall enable them, reimburse the sum or sums that may be advanced by them.

Signed, DUDLEY DIGGS, *Pres't.*

DIXON & HOLT TO THE GOVERNOR. January 9th

Ask for the use of the Committee rooms of the House of Delegates after the session is over for the purpose of printing the public business. Richmond

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J. PARKER TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. January 9th

Requests the Governor to lend a drum to Mr. Graves of the Norfolk Volunteer Company, as no such article can be obtained at Norfolk on any terms. Richmond

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JOHN PRICE POSEY TO HON. EDMUND RANDOLPH, ESQ'R, AND THE COUNCIL. January 9th

The unfortunate and most unhappy John Price Posey begs that a further indulgence of a few days could be allowed him—Hopeful that it would be attended with giving further releif to the peace of mind that your unfortunate petitioner is now in search of.

THE GOVERNOR, January 9th

By resollution of the general assembly, directed to make to Hannah Crawford, widow of Col. Wm. Crawford, who was killed in an expedition against the Indians, the same allowance as made to the widows of officers of equal rank killed in the late war. In the House of Delegates

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Ordered, That the public printer be directed to strike immediately two hundred copies of the Act making further provision for the erection of the district of Kentucky into an independent State; fifty copies of the Act to amend the act for regulating and disciplining the militia; fifty copies of the act for appointing Commissioners to liquidate and settle the expenses January 10th In the House of Delegates

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1787. incurred in two expeditions carried on from the Kentucky district against
January 10th the neighboring Indians, and five hundred Copies of the act for reviving continually and amending an act to revive and amend in part an act for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement Rights, and for locating Warrants upon pre-emption Rights, and for other purposes, to be distributed throughout the Kentucky District by the members representing the Counties therein.

January 10th — W. ALEXANDER TO GOV. EDMUND RANDOLPH,

Richmond — Enclosing the Depositions of Richard Smyth and Rob't Alexander, respecting the forging Tobacco notes by William Watson:

Sir:

It has not been in my power to transmit the enclosed affidavits sooner to your Excellency. * * * * *
I notice this because I find inconsiderate or ill-designing men have been censuring me for not giving earlier Information of Watson's escape. I beg, therefore, to inform you that my letter was written and signed within three hours of the first information I received on the subject.

Your Excellencie's most Obed't
and Most Humble Serv't.

January 10th — BOND OF JOHN JOUETT, JOS. CROCKETT AND RICH'D TERRELL,

Richmond — In the penalty of fifteen hundred pounds, conditioned to receive at Red Stone, Old Fort, on the Monongalia River, and convey to Dick's River, in the District of Kentucky, and deliver to the order of Col. Benjamin Logan, 500 stand of arms, 2,500 lbs. of powder, and 20,000 flints.

January 11th — RESOLUTION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

In the House of Delegates — Authorizing the Executive to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death or resignation of the Commissioner appointed to liquidate the accounts of this Commonwealth with the United States.

January 11th — THE TREASURER

House of Delegates — Authorized to advance to the Executive a sufficient sum of money to support the Arsenal at the Point of Fork, &c.

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*R. CASWELL, GOV. OF N. CAROLINA, TO THE GOV. OF VIRGINIA, 1787.

Enclosing copy of an Act of the Legislature of that State appointing Deputies to a Convention proposed to be held in the city of Philadelphia in May next, for the purpose of revising the Federal Constitution, &c. January 12th

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A RETURN OF ARMS AND MILITARY STORES, &C. January 12th

1 16-inch mortar, 2 6-Pounders, 8 4-Pounders, 5900 muskets with Bayonets, 1033 without, 936 Grenadier Swords, 278 ship's-swords, 15 horsemans, 53½ Balls. powder, 83 ½-bls. powder, 1 Tierce powder, 43½ boxes of musket cartridges, 61 6-lb. canister, 27 4-lb. Grape, 57 4-lb. Round, 15 6-lb. Case, 43 Rheams of musket cartridge paper, ½ Rheams of cannon cartridge paper, 102 Pigs of Lead, 10,000 Flints, 4038 cartridge boxes, 217 Pistol holsters, 935 Pickers and Brushes, 436 6-p'd tubes, 21 Formers, 36 yds. Serjet, 4 Blls. of Sulphur, 2½ coils of slow-match, 1 Gunner's belt. Upon close inspection, most of these arms and stores found to be in bad order. This did not apply to the arms lately received from France. In addition to the above, there were ten pieces of Field artillery, viz: 2 brass 6-pounders, 6 brass 4-pounders, 2 Iron 4-pounders, mounted on unpainted carriages, but wanting Sponges, Ladles, worms, Drag ropes, Linstock, tubes, port-fires, &c. The 6-pounders too long and heavy, weighing 1,200 pounds each. The Sergett used a very bad substitute for flannel for cannon cartridges. Point of Fork

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OTWAY BYRD, SHERIFF, TO THE GOVERNOR, January 12th

Informing him that Irby Phillips, a criminal confined in the Jail of that County, to be sent to Richmond for further trial, had been risqued from his confinement by seven armed men, who fired on the Guard that were mounted at the Prison, and dispersed them. Charles City county

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*Sent by Post from Edenton, and was received at Richmond Jan'y 29th. The Preamble to the resolutions under this Act, points to the dangers which most threaten our existence as a free and independent people; and insists upon the necessity of enlarging the powers of Congress, by reason of the limited powers which, by the articles of Confederation, are vested in the Congress of the United States, &c.

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1787. AND. DUNSCOMB TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

January 13th Richmond — Enclosing copy of the oath of office he had taken as Commissioner for ascertaining and settling the account depending between the Commonwealth of Vir'g'a and the United States, and requesting to be informed as to the number of Clerks he should employ; asking for 15 pounds to purchase the necessary Books, Paper, &c., and enquiring if there were a proper Room which he could occupy, &c,

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January 16th — CHRISTOPHER ROANE AND JOHN HAGUE, SEARCHERS, TO THE GOVERNOR,

Upper District of James River — Recommending further restrictions in order to prevent smuggling goods into the District. The baggage of passengers and the stores of ships should be particularly examined, on account of the impositions practiced.

January 17th RESOLUTIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESEN'TIVES OF THAT STATE,

New Hampshire — Appointing two of their Delegates in Congress of the United States as Deputies to meet those appointed by other States of the Union, to assemble in Convention at Philadelphia, on the second day of May next, to suggest and discuss all such alterations and further provisions, as to render the federal Constitution adequate to the Exigences of the Union, &c.

January 20th ACCOUNT CURRENT OF MR. HOUDON WITH B. FRANKLIN, APPROVED BY MESSRS. DE HEYDER, REYE & CO.

Items. 1785. July. } (In French.)

For his passage and that of his workmen from Havre to Southampton..... £60.

Houdon's expences

	Livres.
26th—Paid to Williams for shirts, blankets, &c.....	£ 8. 2. 0.
27th—To Wilkinson for Sailors and Cloths, &c.....	10. 15. 6.
" —Sum paid by Mr. Houdon to Custom House at Southampton.....	0. 5. 0.
" —For carrying baggage two trips.....	0. 4. 0.
" —Board at Southampton of Mr. Houdon and suite.....	2. 10. 0.
" —Passage of Mr. Houdon to America.....	36. 15. 0.
" — " of his servants, workmen.....	47. 5. 0.
	£105. 16. 6.

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DR. REY TO GOV. RANDOLPH. 1787.

He had served as Surgeon to the Illinois Regiment from the 15th August, 1778, to its Reduction 14th April, 1783—had settled his pay up to Jan'y, 1782, and now applies for the remainder due up to 14th April, 1783—adds: "I shall not trespass on your Excellency's Leisure by recalling to your memory the disagreeable service of this Corps, or the personal hardship I experienced when taken by the Savages. Submitting the case to your Excellency's consideration, January 22d Surgeon to the Illinois Regiment

I remain with respect
Your most obedient and most h'ble Serv'nt.

W. ALEXANDER January 22d

In reply to the Governor's enquiries as to the cash prices of Tobacco at this date: Richmond

James River—Bird's, Shockoe and Rock Ridge, Manchester and Warwick	23s.
Petersburg and Osborne's	22s.
Hood's, and Cabin Point and Gray's Creek	20s.
Smithfield and Milnor's	18s. @ 19s.
York River—Page's	24s.
Meriweather's	21 @ 21 6d.
Tod's, Aylet's, Frazer and Sheppard's	21s.
All down	20s.
Rappahannock—From Fredericksburg and Falmouth down to Hob's hole	20s.
Hobb's hole down to the Neck	19s.
All ye Northern Neck	18s.
Potomack—From ye Falls and Alexandria to Boyd's hole	20s.
At Boyd's hole	19s.
Below and Eastern Shore	18s.

Price of Tobacco

WM. PENNOCK TO THE GOVERNOR January 22d

In reply as to cash prices of Tobacco, &c.: Richmond

Richmond, Manchester and Warwick	23s. p'r cwt.
Osborne's and Petersburg	22s. " "
Lower Inspections	20s.
Fredericksburg, Falmouth and Port Royal	21s.
The Lower Inspections	18s.
Hanover Town and New Castle	23s.
Cumberland and lower down	21s.

He is not acquainted with the Inspections on Potomac.

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1787. COL. MERIWETHER,

January 22d Richmond In Council — Being requested to enquire and report on what terms a number of Expresses can be procured to go to the different counties with copies of the Amendment to the revenue act, replies: "Three Expresses may be procured in Richmond, but they are such as I cannot place much confidence in. The Solicitor sends off his Expresses next week, and says they may carry copies of the Amendment to the Revenue Act to the different counties, If not too bulky."

January 23d — COPY OF RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF JAN'Y 5TH, 1787,

A. Dunscomb, commissioner, &c. — Authorizing the appointment of a Commissioner to adjust the claims of the State of Virginia against the United States, &c., with certificate of John Beckley, Cl'k H. Delegates, that Andrew Dunscomb, Esquire, had been elected Commissioner for this purpose by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly on Thursday, the eleventh instant.

January 23d — DAVID ROSS TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Arrowfield — I have for a long time been a considerable creditor of the State, and in particular for the actual advance of money and Tobacco at the most critical stage of the late war. The payment of this particular claim was put on the arrears of the Taxes for 1782. This fund would have been very sufficient, but the Laws having unfortunately afforded a temptation and an opportunity to the collectors of the Revenue to speculate upon the money and credit of the State, these arrearages have been principally paid up in facilities purchased by the collectors at a discount from 10 to 25 p'r ct.; and in order to get money for my Warrants I have in some instances been obliged to make a similar sacrifice. * * * *

I observe the County of Gloucester is delinquent for the princip'l part of the taxes from the year 1782 to this time, while many counties not possesing one-tenth of their wealth, nor anything like their natural advantages, have punctually paid up their taxes. I also observe by the Solicitor's Books that repeated indulgence has been granted by the Executive. I am far, very far, from doubting but there was apparent good reasons for it, and I have now only to request that my claim to paym't may be placed on the opposite scale to their claim for further indulgence for the taxes of 1782, sh'd they apply on the 1st of next month, and should it preponderate that I may be permitted to superintend the levying of an Ex'on, in order to obtain the justice which has long been held from me,

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not by the public, but by the fraud of some of the public officers, in the manner before mentioned. I hope you will pardon the liberty I have taken in this address. 1787. January 23d

I am, sir, with great regard, &c.

Some Executions have been sent to Gloucester, but from a sympathy between sh'ff and sh'ff, and the Coroner and sh'ff, nothing has been produced. I believe that county is now upwards of £10,000 specie in arrears.

WM. ROSE, PUBLIC JAILOR, TO THE GOVERNOR, January 24th

In behalf of a mulatto, one Jeremiah Anthony, condemned to death for the murder of old Lassetter. From all the evidences before him he is persuaded of his innocence. Excuses his trespassing upon the time of his Excellency thus: "I beg pardon for this lengthy Letter, as I seldom trouble the Executive to prolong the Execution of malefactors, because I am certain, from long experience, it answers no good end, for generally they are better prepared for Death in forty-eight hours after sentence than at any remote distance.

WM. GATEWOOD AND AUGUSTINE TABB, GENTLEMEN, January 25th

Appointed severally Searchers for the Districts of Rappahannock and Norfolk by the Governor in Council.

PROCLAMATION OF GOV. ED. RANDOLPH, January 25th

Authorizing surveys to be made on the lands allotted to the Virginia Line on continental establishment and on the northwest side of the Ohio River, or below the mouth of the river Tenissee, in accordance with the act of Congress of the 9th of May, 1786, giving power to surveyors appointed pursuant to the ordinance for ascertaining the mode of disposing of Lands in the western Territory, to proceed in the execution of the provisions of said act.

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1787. LEIGHTON WOOD, J'N'R, TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

January 26th Richmond

Characteristic letter of an official

It was not untill this day that I knew anything of the act of assembly directing me to give Bond and Security for the faithful discharge of my duty as Solicitor and accounting for certain sums of money to be received by me. It gives me some concern, sir, to find that after almost ten Years' continuance in publick service, and nearly seven of them as a principal in one office or the other, that my conduct should require an additional Warranty. If an Oath of office is not sufficient to guard the Publick from chicanery in their Servants, I should lay but little dependence on a Bond; however, since the Assembly has thought proper to direct it, presume it right, and so far as it respects the receipt of money, indubitably commendable, and for the just execution of that branch of Duty, I should have no objection to make myself liable in the strictest manner, but for the faithful performance of the other official Duties it is rather too hazardous for me to undertake, as literally to comply with the Law I know is impracticable, or at least by a man of no better abilities than myself, consequently should I be so unjust as to give bond for the execution of known impossibilities, I could not be worthy the Public confidence; add to this the base meanness I must judge myself guilty of in asking Gentlemen to be Bondsmen for me at a time that I entertain doubts of being able to execute what they engage for me to do. Indeed, I do not know that it is in my power to obtain that favour, having never had any idea of such a thing being requisite; and your Excellency cannot be ignorant that I stand deprived of all Family connections, the grand source from which all such advantages are derived. Still I might be induced to try, could I suppose your Excellency would admit a Bond for the faithful discharge of the money transactions, as it never was, neither is it now, my intention to receive a single penny of it, but negotiate the business in the Treasury office, and so far as Integrity in matters of that kind is necessary I will dare to trust myself, and more I cannot do. For however distressing a sudden and unexpected loss of Business may be, or however ill it may suit my private situation in Life, I shall prefer struggling with the difficulties such a change may occasion to the disagreable reflection of undertaking what I am incapable of, and thereby deceiving, if not injuring, my Friends, as they who become my securities must be, in every sense of the word.

Has no family connexions from whom to expect aid

January 27th

JOHN EVANS, CO. LIEUT., TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH.

Monongalia county

Sends by Express a return of the officers and militia, together with the defenceless situation of their frontiers, lying exposed to the ravages of a cruel and savage enemy. Expecting an Indian war the ensuing season, prays for assistance, as they have neither arms nor ammunition for defence.

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SAMPSON MATHEWS 1787.

Informs the Governor he is too unwell to venture out in this inclement weather. A searcher being necessary in Staunton, he recommends Anthony Mustoe as a person of good report, vigilant and industrious, a citizen of that Town, for the place. January 29th Richmond

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DAVID ROSS TO GOV. RANDOLPH, January 30th

Enclosing report of Messrs. Jos. Carrington and Edmund Logwood, Commissioners appointed to settle his claim against the State for damages and use of his property at the Point of Fork, and who had estimated the same at £373. 10. 0., upon testimony, to-wit: Mess. Howell Lewis and Wm. Price, who in 1781 had been assistant Quarter Masters at that Port, testify that the first set of quarters built for the Publick had been burnt by the British. The quarter master being then at a loss for accommodation, Mr. Ross allowed him the use of a large, commodious dwelling house, kitchen, stable, store-house, smoke-house, &c.; that a large quantity of powder was removed from a house at the new Barracks to the store-house, which was plundered and set on fire by a gang of run away negroes, the explosion of which seriously damaged the entire property. Nat. Anderson, late Dep'y Q. Master, testified that the powder above referred to had been removed by his order to the store-house near the Byrd Creek, the property of Mr. David Ross, and adjacent to the house occupied by himself; that soon after his leaving it the said store-house was set on fire by a gang of run away negroes, which blew it up and damaged the property of Mr. David Ross, at Saint Elizabeth. The report of the Commissioners states there were six framed houses, three hewed-logged houses, and three cabins, containing fourteen fire-places—the greater part of which were in constant use for the publick from the beginning of the year 1781, for which rent should be allowed until Jan'y 1st, 1786; that there were twenty acres of land, the timber of which had been entirely cut off for the use of firewood and coal to supply the publick forges, and finally a large area of woods-pasturage destroyed by the Horses belonging to the comand of Major-Gen'l Baron Steuben and others, and ground spoiled in brick-making. Mr. Ross urges upon his Excellency the necessity of providing for the payment of the claim allowed by the Commissioners.

Petersburg, Va

Point of Fork David Ross' claim

Negroes destroyed the buildings on Byrd Creek

Buildings at Point of Fork and damages done

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1787. JOHN HARVIE TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

January 30th Land Office Parchment for the Land office, &c

The supply of parchment in the Land office nearly exhausted. That ordered from Philadelphia not come to hand, and none to be obtained in Richmond. He is reduced to the alternative of either stopping the Issuing of Grants, or have them made out on paper. To adopt the former course would seriously embarrass the business of his office, in view of the numerous applications for Grants. As the parchment from Philadelphia is to come by water, great delay must ensue. He therefore desires instructions in the premises. His Excellency's Predecessor, Mr. Henry, under like circumstances, did affix his signature to Grants made out upon paper.

January 30th J. AMBLER REPORTS TO ARCHIBALD BLAIR, ESQ.,

Treasury office That there is at this time no Specie in the Contingent Fund.

February 1st BOND OF LEIGHTON WOOD, J'N'R, SOLICITOR,

L. Wood, Jr., gives bond, &c In the penalty of Ten Thousand Pounds Current money of Virginia, and others, viz.: Peter Lyons, John Lyne, John Hatley Norton, George Webb and David Cochran, for the faithful performance of the duties of said office, with P. Southall, J. Pendleton and James Hawes as sureties.

February 2d CHAS. THOMSON, SECRETARY OF CONGRESS, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA,

Congress Enclosing public documents, and informing him that Arthur St. Clair had been appointed President of Congress by that body, but that Virginia still remained unrepresented.

February 2d SAM'L BROWN, CO. LIEUT., TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Greenbriar county Kanawha road He finds it impossible to send a proper return of the militia in that county, because the making of the road to the Kanaway hapen'd at the time we should have had a general Muster. The people daily removing to Kentucky, and the settlements on the Kanaway must certainly break up in March unless the Executive will aford them succour, which will revive the scheem of the Road from there to Kaintuckey.

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BOND OF JOHN HAGUE, 1787,

In the penalty of one thousand pounds, to act as Searcher for the Richmond District. February 5th

CHRIS'R CALVERT TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH, IN REPLY, February 7th

Informing him that he never had any Seal Except that to my watch. That impression should have sent, but my watch being out for Repair, cannot furnish you at this Present time. My Commissions say I am Na. Officer over Blackwater and Nottoway, and had liberty to settle between the two Rivers, Each port about six miles from my office, &c. So Quay

JOS. MARTIN TO GOV. RANDOLPH. February 10th

He had just rec'd an Express from John Martin, his agent in the Cherokee nation, dated Chota, ye 25th Jan'y, 1787, by which he learns the Convention, composed of all the cheifs of the Cherokees, held for the purpose of considering as to their removal from their present settlement, had broken up. They had determined to await his return, and unless the whites could be removed from their lands they should go away, as the white people tell them they will plant corn in their Towns this Spring. * * * * * He adds: "If the Indians move I fear that poor, defenceless County, Russell, will greatly suffer, as I expeect they will bend all their forces against that part and the Kentucky Road. * * * * * They have frequently told me that if they ever mov'd they would settle between the Creeks and Choctaws, but from the number of Runners that have passed between them and the northward lately, I incline to think they will cross the Ohio, tho' I shall be sure to get into that secret before they set out. I am on my way with three prisoners that was taken from them in the course of the warr by the North Carolina militia; three others I sent after, which I expect to meêt me at the long Islands of Holston. That will have a wonderful affect, as they have been long complaining for them. The whole of their prisoners will then be delivered, only one, which is in Kentucky in the possession of one William Whiteside, who left North Carolina some time last Year and took the prisoner with him, which is a Girl of about 10 or 12 years old. I must begg that your Excellency will give Colo. Logan orders to take her and deliver her to me, who will return her immediately. Whiteside lives near Harrison's Station, I think, in Lincoln County. I am inform'd by the same Letter that the Spaniards are building two forts in the Creek nation for the defence of that Tribe. If, on my arrival in the nation, anything of Importance turns up, I shall send your Excellency by Express, either to Richmond or Philadelphia, where I am told you are shortly to be. Henry county, Va

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1787. G'N'L HENRY KNOX, SEC. OF WAR, TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

February 12th War Office

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's two favors of December ye 18th and 30th.

The Board of treasury have not yet been able to form any efficient plan for providing for the establishment of the troops in all respects. No contracts for clothing or rations are yet made. These materially depend on some plans which are submitted to Congress for their approbation and direction.

There having been no Congress since October, until very lately, and not one of nine States untill this day, the subject could not be discussed in Congress. I hope, however, that the matter will soon be determined, when I shall be able to write fully to Captain Watts respecting his horses, accoutrements, and the other necessary supplies.

Bebellion in Massachusetts crushed

I have the pleasure to assure your Excellency that the formidable Insurrection in Massachusetts is in a fair train of being effectually and speedily suppressed.

General Lincoln informs me that he marched at 8 o'clock on the evening of the 3d instant with his force, consisting of upwards of 3,000 troops of all descriptions, and after a fatiguing march of 30 miles, without halting but for a few moments, part of it through a violent storm of Snow, after which succeeded a severe cold, so that most of his men were frozen in different places and degrees, he completely surprised the insurgents at Petersham at 9 o'clock Sunday morning, the 4th, and almost entirely dispersed them—took 150 prisoners—the rest fled in every direction. The leaders have escaped to New Hampshire and other States.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's most obed't

Humble Serv't, &c., &c.

February 13th

THE COUNTY COURT OF KING WILLIAM COUNTY

Collector of taxes

To carry out the requirements of the Gen'l Assembly for establishing a permanent revenue, &c., lay off and allot that part of this County lying below the road leading from Mantapike warehouse to the Bestland bridge, as one district, and appoint Wm. Fleet, Gent., Commissioner thereof.

February 14th

At a Court continued and held for, &c.;

PRESENT.

Washington county Arthur Campbell

Wm. Edmondson,	John Lowry,	Gent.
James Dysart,	Robert Campbell,	
Joseph Black,	Samuel Edmondson,	
John Kincaid,		

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Ordered, That it be earnestly recommended to his Excellency, the Governor, and the honorable, the Council of State, that Authur Campbell be and remain a Justice of the peace in the County of Washington, and that the order of the Executive, bearing date the thirty-first day of August last, be rescinded. 1787. February 14th

A copy, JOHN CAMPBELL, *C. W. C.*

ARTHUR CAMPBELL, CO. LIEUT., February 14th

In making report of officers recommended to command the militia of that County, refers to two Companies situated between the two boundary Lines, for sometime past joined to No. Carolina and Frankland, but of late claiming citizenship in Virginia. Washington county Frankland, &c

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COL. LEVI TODD TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH OF VA. February 14th

* * * I would beg leave to observe, that from the constant increase of the number of Inhabitants in this County, resignations and other circumstances, I find it extremely difficult, or rather Impossible, to have the necessary proportion of officers authorized to act in the militia. Our great distance from the Executive is also a cause. As 'tis generally a considerable time after a Recommendation is made before the Commission arrives, and safe or speedy conve'ances seldom offer, I flatter myself your Excellency when reflecting on this, and the necessity of a well-ordered Militia, at a Time precarious, and the greatest exertions necessary, will, if consistant with the duty of the Executive, conceive it proper that blank Commissions might be transmitted, accompanied with such Instructions as may be Judged necessary. Fayette county, Kentucky

The prospect of affairs in this District at this Time is Something Gloomy. We have every reason to expect, as soon as the season permits, to experience the united efforts of all the neighbouring Indian Tribes. Apprehensive of this, our frontier settlements give way, and 'tis with difficulty that Settlers can be prevailed on to stay at such frontier places as we conceive of the greatest Importance. Two detachments, at this early period of the Season, are now on Duty from this County—one at Limestone, for the defence of that important landing, the other ranging on the N. W. frontiers of Fayette. Not a week passes without depredations being committed in some part of the District. We complain much that no adequate mode is pointed out and directed to procure Supplies for men on Duty. Ammunition is greatly wanted, Lead in particular, and could we be furnished with 500 stand of arms it would be a valuable acquisition to the District. We cannot complain of scarcity of Men or want of Provisions, but greatly need means to procure the Lat- Gloomy condition of affairs

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1787. February 14th

ter, when wanted, and a Law imposing fines on delinquents in such manner as would deter them from a commission of that crime. It might be expected that Danger would unite, and Induce us, with one consent, to lend every aid and act with vigour; but experience has proved the contrary, and numbers in affluant circumstances, who live in safety, will not risk their persons or contribute any part of their property unless compelled.

I have the Honor to be

Your Excellency's most obed't very H'bl. Serv't, &c., &c.

February 14th

THOS. BROWN TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Portsmouth Commerce

Enclosing the proceedings of a meeting of the merchants of that town concerning grievances in their commerce, held in consequence of a letter from his Excellency of the 11th inst. Also certain suggestions and propositions adopted, with request that they be favorably considered by the Executive in Council, and that such of them be recommended to the Gen'l Assembly as may require legislative action. They report "The conduct of the

State boats

State Boats and naval officer gives very general satisfaction." That the

Tax for light house

clause for imposing a Tonnage of 6d. pr. Ton on all vessels coming into this State, for the building and support of a Light House, is unjust, because it is compelling persons to pay for what they derive no benefit from, and because ships bound to Maryland will, if ever it is erected, receive equal benefit, without being compelled to pay their proportion of the expense of erecting and supporting the same.

Masters of ships to make entry 24 hours after arrival unreasonable

That the clause requiring masters of ships to make report and entry at the office of the District when he may first arrive, within 24 hours after his arrival, is unreasonable, because circumstances may happen, such as bad weather or distress, making it necessary to procure Rigging or repairs for a ship bound to another port, or even to another State, and after coming to anchor a head wind may come to prevent her proceeding on her voyage; and all other nations have thought it necessary to allow at least 48 hours. And also ships frequently do call with orders to try the markets, and if not answering, to proceed to another port, and which will necessarily take more time than that allowed by Law. And frequently ships arriving at the Ports of Norfolk and Hampton are obliged to wait for orders 'til an Express can be sent to the Consignee at Rich'd or Petersburg.

Tax of one shilling per seaman unjust

That the Clause directing one shilling at entrance and clearance of every vessel, to be paid for each seamen on board, is unjust and cruel, because we are credibly inform'd that the money hitherto collected on the same account and for the same declared purposes, to a considerable amount, has been cruelly and unjustly applied to other uses, while we have frequent instances of seamen, suffering every species of hardship and actually dying in the streets for want of a hospital for their reception.

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1787. February 14th

That the clause requiring masters of vessels to declare to whom Goods are consigned, is unreasonable, because there are frequent Instances of there being shipt and the master's signing bills of Lading to deliver them to order, without knowing who is the consignee.

Masters to declare to whom goods belong, &c

That the clause obliging masters of ships to pay double Tonnage for short measurement is unjust, because it has always been customary to enter the Tonnage by the Register or Sight Bills, and that the masters have, in all countries, been accustomed to follow that mode only.

Double tonnage for short measurement.

That the Clause impowering the searchers to appoint as many assistants as they may think necessary, is both unjust and impolitick, because it gives them an unlimited power to multiply themselves *ad infinitum*, without any control whatever, and will, if not check'd, increase to a very great evil and burthen, both to the State and its commerce, by placing the property of merchants, to a very great amount, in the power of persons of no responsibility.

Searchers, &c

That Goods being frequently wrong packed by mistake, or the amount erroneously carried out, we conceive it to be unjust to confiscate a ship for any such fault, because the master or owner of such ship never are, nor possibly can be, acquainted with the contents of the Packages. We also conceive it is throwing great temptations in the way of rogues and villians, because a man in England, knowing these circumstances, might designedly ship a single Package, of not £5 value, and by making a wrong entry here and become informer, condemn a ship of many thousand pounds value to his own emolument, and it is, besides, laying every merch't liable to be ruined by the information of his storekeeper for ever so small an error in his Invoice.

Ship should not be confiscated

We think that the average of 100 Gallons for each hhd. of Rum or Pipe of wiue, is too large, unless the importer was allowed a drawback of the duties for any deficiency or leakage previous to the Landing, and we think that the most equitable way of ascertaining the duties on all spiritous and other Liquors would be by having each Cask guaged by a sworn Guager at Landing.

Guage of Hogsheads of liquors too large

We conceive that the clause directing and requiring Craft taking goods on board in one district for another, to take out permits in each district before they can deliver their goods, will be attended with such difficulties and delays to the craft and detention of goods to merch'ts as will put an entire stop to inland navigation. That it conveys the idea of a disgraceful suspicion on all commercial people, and is calculated to promote no good end, unless the agrandizement of the Town of Hampton.

Restriction on goods to be shipped from one district to another

We conceive the clause condemning ships to forfeiture for passing Newport News point, without making entry, has been made without thought, or attention to Justice or Equity, because there have been frequent instances of ships arriving within the Capes of Virginia without either Anchor or Cable sufficient to bring them too, or have been in attempting to bring too in Hampton Road, in a Gale of Wind, driven from her Anchors, and not able to bring up 'til after they were past Newport News, and many other circumstances of distress may occur to oblige them to

Ships condemned for passing Newport News, &c

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1787. February 14th

run up beyond the point for Safety. We also here remark, that ships bound to Maryland are frequently forced into Hampton Road by North East winds, when they are compelled from the Same cause to lie some weeks waiting for proper winds, in which case we are doubtful whether they would not be liable to confiscation for not making an entry within 24 hours of her arrival if this Law is carried into execution.

How registers are granted, &c

We approve of the mode prescribed for granting Registers under the Signature of the Governor and Seal of State, but conceive that it will be a considerable saving of both time and money to the Merch't if Blank Registers were Lodged with each naval officer to be fill'd up and countersign'd by them on delivery.

Drawbacks on merchandize re-exported

We conceive that the Clause respecting drawbacks on merchandize re-exported, tho' intended for the benefit and ease of the Merch't, is clog'd with circumstances that will effectually defeat the intentions, because it prevents the importer from selling any goods to another person who may be induced from the prospect of the drawback to try other markets, and because it requires all such goods to be actually landed before they are re-exported, which in cases of salt, and other bulky articles of small value, would be attended with an expense and loss of measure more than equal to the duty.

The tax of two shillings per ton on American vessels destructive to ship building, &c

When we come to examine the Act to impose certain duties, we are astonish'd to find a duty of 2s. p'r Ton laid on all American vessels. We always conceiv'd that the good and prosperity of Commerce in every Country could only be promoted by encouraging the art of navigation among the native citizens. We are therefore the more surprised to find restrictions laid on the navigation of this Country at a time when it is well known that all other nations are doing everything in their power to Cramp and restrain our Carrying Trade, and when it is known that our trade is under such manifold disadvantages, that every merchant in the State, who owns an American Bottom, is actually sinking money by them, or endeavouring to sell them at less than half their cost, insomuch that the counties of Norfolk, Princess Anne and Nansemond, which formerly built perhaps 150 vessels p'r Annum, have not, at this time, three Sea vessels on the stocks of any kind, and that, in consequence of these disadvantages, our Carpenters, Smiths, Blockmakers, and other Tradesmen in that line, must either starve or Emigrate. The Carrying Trade also, from Maryland and Carolina, must be effectually stopp'd, as the Tonnage on small vessels would frequently amount to as much as the freight of their cargoes.

General effect of the laws lately passed

Upon the whole, we are of opinion that the several laws passed at the last Sessions of Assembly, relative to Trade and regulations of the Customs, appear to be founded on imperfect and partial information, and that so far from producing a permanent addition to the Revenue, they will probably tend to decrease it by lessening the importations, and consequently affecting the price and value of our Exports.

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1787.

Our communication with Maryland and N. Carolina should be made as easie as is consistant with the security of the revenue. This place is already a formidable rival to Baltimore, and together, with Suffolk and Petersburg, will have a considerable share of the trade of No. Carolina if proper Laws are made for the encouragement of navigation with inspection of produce, &c. February 14th

The late Laws expose a merchant so much, and in some cases are thought so impolitic, unjust and oppressive, that several merchants had been heard to say they would wind up their business and remove to Baltimore.

Ports of Call and advantages thereof

It is customary to direct ships to Cork, Falmouth, Cowes, and all the other convenient Ports in England and Ireland, there to wait for orders when to proceed. In this case the ship is always allowed to report at the Custom House from day to day, but subject to seizure for breaking Bulk or making Sale of goods without Entry. Ships lying in this situation are constantly in want of necessaries. Should, therefore, a Vessel be compelled to make an Entry in twenty-four hours, we should deprive ourselves of the advantage of being a Port of Call, and of supplying what ships under these circumstances may want, tho' this at first sight may appear of little consequence, yet any inducement to make vessels stop is an advantage, for none can arrive without laying out something; and, add to this, a small difference in a market will not induce the Merchant to send his vessel further. We may therefore suppose that one-half the vessels under these circumstances will finally enter where they first stop, but should the merchants be deprived of this chance, they will probably order their ships to the Port when they may have such an advantage.

Wise policy of Great Britain

Ships in distress are considered under particular circumstances, and we should think ought to be treated and have the same indulgence that is granted them by other nations. Great Britain acts in these instances more liberally than any other power, and we beleive in all matters relative to trade is the best guide.

A Talk for Colo. Joseph Martin—From Piomingo, One of the Cheifs of that Tribe. February 15th

Brother:

Chickasaw nation

I have sent for you Twice to come and see us, as we may Talk Face to face. But you have not come, which we think Very strange of. This is the third time. If you Don't Come we shall think You are asham'd of the Treaty you held with us at Keive, When we agreed to give up a part of our Lands on the Tennessee for the purpose of Trading. We have nothing of Goods since, only what we got by way of the Spaniards. This makes us Very Uneasy, and seems as if You only ment to Jockey us out of our Lands. The Spaniards are after sending Talks to us, but we want to have nothing to say to them, if we can help it, but must

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1787. February 15th

have Trade from some place. We know you and love you, and wish to hold you Fast, But necessity will oblige us to Look for new friends if we cannot get Friends otherwise. My Talk is short; I speak truth. I herewith send you a Large Belt of Wampum by Two of my Young men, who, I hope, You will Look upon as Your Friends, and Give them something for their Trouble in coming to you, and hope you will come home with them, as we Don't want to do anything Before we see you.

PIOMINGO.

P. S.—We are sorry to hear that the white People are setling all the Lands Belonging to our Brothers, the Cherokees; we hope something will be Done to prevent it, as we Expect when all their lands Is settled our Lands will go the same way. I speak now for the Choctaws as well as my own People; we are all very uneasy about it, as we are told the Americans Intends to take all our Country Before they Done.

A True Copy—Teste:

CHARLES HAMILTON.

February 16th

Washington county

Arthur Campbell

ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

A paper was handed to me a few days ago by a Gentleman who had lately been in the Country below us, called Frankland. From what I had learned from him great pains was taking to circulate copies, giving them an air of secrecy.

The object seem'd to be aimed at and the consequences that may ensue, direct me to judge it to be my duty to forward to your Excellency the inclosed copy.

I have the honor to be, Sir, &c.

A COPY OF A LETTER

From a Gentleman at the Falls of Ohio to his friend in New England, dated Dec. 4th, 1786:

Dear Sir:

Politicks which, a few months ago, were scarcely thought of, are now sounded aloud in this part of the world and discussed by almost every person. The late commercial Treaty with Spain, in shutting up, as it is said, the navigation of the Mississippi for the term of Twenty-five years, has given this western Country an universal shock, and struck its Inhabitants with an amazement. Our foundation is affected; it is therefore nenecessary that every Individual exert himself to apply a remedy. To sell us and make us vassals to the merciless Spaniards, is a grievance not to be borne. The parliamentary acts which occasioned our revolt from Great Britain were not so barefaced and intolerable. To give us the liberty of

The Spanish Treaty, &c

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1787. February 16th

transporting our Effects down the River to N. Orleans, and then be subject to the Spanish laws and impositions, is an insult upon our understanding. We know, by woful experience, that it is in their power, when once there, to take our produce at any price they please. Large quantities of Flour, Meal, Tobacco, &c., have been taken there the last Summer and mostly confiscated. Those who had *permits* from the Governor were obliged to sell at a price he was pleased to state, or subject themselves to lose the whole. Men of large property are already ruined by their policy. What benefit can you, on the Atlantic shores, receive from this act? The Spaniards, from the amazing resources of this river, can supply all their own markets at a much lower price than you possibly can. Though this country has been settling but about six years, and that in the midst of an inveterate enemy, and most of the first adventurers fallen a prey to the savages, and although the emigration to this Country is so very rapid that the internal market is very great, yet the quantities of produce they now have on hand are immense. Flour and Pork are now selling here at twelve shillings per hundred, Beef in proportion, and any quantities of Indian corn can be had at nine pence per bushel. Three times the quantity of Tobacco and corn can be raised on an acre here that can be within the settlements on the East side of the mountains, and with less cultivation. It is, therefore, rational to suppose that in a very few years the vast Bodies of waters in those Rivers will labour under immense weight of the produce of this rich and fertile country, and the Spanish ships be unable to convey it to market.

Amazing resources of the Miss. Valley, &c

Price of provisions

Do you think to prevent the emigration from a barren country, loaded with taxes and impoverished with debts, to the most luxurious and fertile soil in the world? Vain is the thought and presumptuous the supposition! You may as well endeavor to prevent the Fishes from gathering on a Bank in the Sea which afford them plenty of nourishment. Shall the best and largest part of the United States lie uncultivated—a nest for savages and Beasts of prey? Certainly not. Providence has designed it for some noble purposes. This is convincing to every one who beholds the many advantages and pleasing prospects of this country. Here is a Soil richer to appearance than can be possibly made by art. Large plains and meadows without the labour of hands, sufficient to support millions of cattle, Summer and Winter. Cane, which is also a fine nourishment for them, without bounds. The spontaneous production of this country surpasses your imagination. Consequently, I see nothing to prevent our Herds being as numerous here, in time, as they are in the Kingdom of Mexico. Our lands to the northward of the Ohio, for the produce of wheat, &c., will, I think, vie with the Island of Sicily. Shall all this country now be cultivated entirely for the use of the Spaniards? Shall we be their bondsmen, as the children of Israel were to the Egyptians? Shall one part of the United States be slaves, while the other is free? Human nature shudders at the thought, and freemen will despise those who could be so mean as to even contemplate on so vile a subject.

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1787. CHAS. THOMSON TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA,

February 16th
Office of Sec'y of Congress
Vague references to troubles in Virginia

In reply to his Excellency's letter of Dec. 1st, 1786, enclosing Act of Assembly appointing deputies to meet in a convention of the States at Philadelphia in May next. This proposition, under the consideration of a grand Committee, Refers to two pieces of important intelligence transmitted to Congress—one in an extract of a letter from a person in Kentucke to a Delegate for Pennsylvania, the other communicated by a Delegate for North Carolina. Although these facts do not come duly authenticated, they are thought worthy of notice, particularly as they concern the Commonwealth of Virginia and the citizens thereof. He trusts steps may be taken to put an immediate and effectual stop to these irregularities, if found to exist, which the reputation and peace of your State and the honor and tranquility of the Confederacy may require.

February 19th

WM. GRAYSON AND J. MADISON, J'N'R, TO THE GOV'R OF VIRGINIA, IN REPLY.

New York

* * * * We are sorry to inform you the packett had sailed a few hours before, so that we could not, by that opportunity, foward the inclosures.

United States decline to sell arms to Virginia

We have applied to Gen'l Knox respecting the arms; but he has declined reporting to Congress, even in favor of a sale, so that we have given up all thoughts of procuring them from the Confederacy. They suggest the propriety of his empowering Mr. Carrington to purchase the number wanted for the State, on his way through Philadelphia to New York, from Messrs. Cox & Frazer, merchants of that place, who, they are informed, have a quantity of excellent arms on hand for sale.

Shay's rebellion

They are informed by Mr. King, one of the Delegates for Massachusetts, that the rebellion is nearly in ye same situation as mentioned in our last. There still exists a party in the County of Berkshire, under ye command of one Wyley, though there is reason to expect these also will shortly be dispersed. We heartily wish this may be the case, as there is good information that the evil is about to be communicated to the frontiers of this State. Indeed, if the party in Massachusetts are successful, it it is highly probable it may extend much farther.

We have the honor to be,

With the highest respect,

Y'r Exc'y's most ob. Servants, &c., &c.

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CHARLES LEE, NAVAL OFFICER OF SOUTH POTOMACK, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. 1787.

When he left Alexandria, on the 3d instant, he did not know that under the new Law he was required to give to the Solicitor at Richmond his Bonds for duties remaining unpaid. He should not be able to do this until the last of March, as he should be obliged to return by Yeocomico to Alexandria * * * * * * * * February 19th Richmond

Continues: "Haveing seen in the *Gazette* the law of the last Session amending the port law, also sundry laws imposing duties, and having in my possession the late naval office law, I find myself in doubt as to some matters, what I ought to do, and therefore shall take the liberty of submitting them to your consideration that I may receive instructions." Doubts as to the construction of the law

Is a vessel belonging to citizens of Virginia wholly, and a vessel under 60 tons belonging to Maryland, exempt from tonnage of 2s., and also 6d., light money? I think they are. * * * * * *

If a ship from Sea be entered in North Potomack, may she be entered with my deputy at Alexandria, according to the last port law, if belonging to foreigners or citizens? It seems as if this might not be done, and unless permitted, the merchants of Alexandria will be subject to great inconvenience. Indeed, I will not omit to observe, that the laws respecting trade of the last Session will introduce many embarrassments and inconveniences with respect to the naval office business, and thereby diminish the revenue arising from duties. To enter a ship at one place, deliver the cargo at another, and bring it up in river craft, exposed to accidents of various kinds, to a third place to be there sold, is a system in general not to be executed without great loss of time, money and trouble on the part of the merchants. Its operation upon trade will be to drive it from the Commonwealth elsewhere; and this effect will be sensibly felt in Potowmack, as the merchants will find it their interests to do their business in Maryland. One of two modes must be adopted with regard to the entry of their ships by the Alexandria merchants, either originally at Yeocomico, or at Georgetown, in Maryland, and from thence with the deputy at Alexandria. This latter will be preferred, because, the invoices not being in the master's power, a ship must after arrival remain at Yeocomico until a messenger can go and return from Alexandria or Dumfries, a detention too expensive. At Yeocomico a master will be at a loss for sureties to secure the duties. The law of Maryland allows a full drawback upon exportation, and the merchants are convenient to Georgetown. Should this mode prevail, the tonnage of the Potowmack trade will be almost wholly paid to Maryland. I am told Yeocomico was made the port of entry to prevent smuggling. This effect cannot in any manner follow, because, by the compact law, any vessel may proceed up the river without stopping at my office, and as she passes up may smuggle now in the same manner as she might under the former law; but the Legislature are, I conceive, mistaken in the ideas they have had concerning this kind

When should ships enter under certain circumstances

Bad consequences of the present system

The Potomac trade must go to Maryland

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1787. of smuggling. The inconvenience and expense is a greater burden than
February the duties.
19th
Registers The obtaining registers from the Council Chamber is inconvenient to the Sea-port towns. Is the oath upon such occasions to be administered by the naval officers? And here let me refer to the first naval office law.

Expense of paying duties in Richmond The payment of the money to the Solicitor at Richmond is hard upon the merchants, because it will be considered by them as equal to 2½ p. c. commission upon the amount of their duties, paid by themselves. If done by others, they will have to pay that commission, and if by themselves their trouble will be equal to it.

But what is more intolerable, is that part of the law which requires the Solicitor to publish the bonds for duties four weeks in the *Virginia Gazette*. In foreign countries, this matter will not be thoroughly understood, or in many instances not attended to, and therefore the credit of our merchants may be most seriously wounded. Upon such advertisements being read, the merchants here will expect to hear of the most summary steps against their effects being taken in foreign countries.

* * * * * * *

Having thus freely and somewhat hastily expressed the sentiments which have occurred to me respecting the laws as they now are, relative to the department in which I am an officer of the Commonwealth,

I have the honor to be your Excellency's
most obedient Servant, &c., &c.

February 21st CIRCULAR FROM CHAS. THOMSON, SEC'Y OF CONGRESS, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA,

Office of Sec'y of Congress Enclosing resolution of Congress authorizing a Convention of Delegates to assemble at Philadelphia on the second Monday in May next for revising the Articles of Confederation, and reporting to Congress and the Legislatures of the Several States such alterations as they may deem adequate to the exegencies of Government and the perpetuation of the Union.

February 21st JNO. PEYTON TO THE EXECUTIVE,

Gloucester county Praying relief for the Deputy Sheriffs of that County who had not been able to collect the taxes since the war, owing to the scarcity of money, there being little or no Tob'o made in the county. Ship-building, the only means of drawing in a little money, has been entirely at a stand, and the Inhabitants has for years past been drained of the little cash amongst them for corn. During the War, other counties, where Tob'o was made, it was laid up, and when the peace commenced, commanded a great price. Here, at the close of the war, the people were left naked, striped of their stock, which would have enabled them to cultivate their lands in Tob'o.

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CHRISTOPHER ROANE TO ARCH. BLAIR, ESQ'R, 1787.

In regard to his appointment as Searcher. * * You say I have choice of places—City Point or the Bermuda hundred. I will take City Point, as the salary is the greatest. I am much disappointed, for I fully expected my salary would been at least forty pounds more than it was the last year, as the trouble and fatigue is greatly increast, and the danger a man's in is not a trifling matter to be considered. I cannot think I am a very timorous man, but must say the danger to any man acting in my line of business is grate and disagreable, but my poverty compels me to pursue it. The gentlemen may think when there is any danger we may apply to a magistrate for redress, but in my opinion it will be too late to apply to a magistrate after we get our brains beate out or nock over board. I can venture to say that two-thirds of the people is as much alarm'd at a parcel of drunken saillors as they wou'd be at so many devils. February 22d

I cannot tell how Mr. Denham or myself will make out at these places with the salary, for the board will be half our wages, exclusive of some room to do the business of the office. There is only four houses at both of these places, and two of them are held by people who will not take in borders, and particularly such borders as we shou'd be, when saillors wou'd be constantly coming to do business with us, and the other two are rum shops, and frequently full of drunken saillors. He is glad to know that one of the Council is required to visit him occasionally. This, he knows, will secure an addition to his salary as soon as the circumstances attending the business are understood. He thinks it unnecessary that two Searchers so near together should have separate fields of duty. They should have a common office at City Point, where the permits to enter could be countersigned by one of them, always to be found, especially as they are required to attend at Petersburg and Broadway on the Appomattox, as well as at City Point and B. Hundred. He desires to attend at Cabin-point at particular times, as there is a number of Torys there that is pretty much in trade, and I am sure it is a place where there is a grate deale of smugling carried on.

HENRY BANKS TO GOV'R RANDOLPH. February 23d

Sir:

In a late excursion through Greenbrier and Montgomery I was informed of several Incursions made by the Indians in the frontier settlements, which strongly indicated hostile Intentions, and which was evidenced by the manner of their coming and the number of Horses which had been stolen. Richmond

There are at present about 60 families setled on both sides of the Kenhawa, beyond the Gawley River. The prospect of that settlement's in-

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1787. February 23d

creasing, if protected, is evidently great, and as evidently necessary, as being the quarter through which the Communications to and from Kentucky ought to pass. To do this I conceive 15 or 20 men necessary, to be kept constantly scouting in different parts of the adjacent counties, so as to reconcile the people to a certainty of protection from Government, and to be an awe to the Indians. These observations the County Lieut. and other leading characters of Greenbrier have requested me to make.

I have the honor to be Your Excellency's
most ob't and humb. Serv't, &c., &c.

February 24th

J. PENDLETON TO THE GOVERNOR,

Auditor's office

Apologizing for not having provided the Securities to join him on the Bond, required by Law for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, &c.

February 24th

CAPT. THOS. BOWNE,

Having been appointed naval officer for South Quay, declines the position, because it would be impossible to support himself by accepting it, especially as the Law prohibits a person acting in that port from following any kind of business, &c.

February 25th

GEORGE SAVAGE, NAVAL OFFICER, TO THE GOVERNOR, IN REPLY.

Northampton county

He had made full settlement with the Auditor in October last, since which time there had been few entries in his office. Adds: "In respect to my Seal of office, I must also beg leave to inform your Excellency that I have never made use of any particular one for that purpose; therefore as a late Act of Assembly directs the Executive to regulate the devices, I shou'd be extremely obliged to your Excellency to inform me what you wou'd have on mine, and I will have one made and send you the impression without loss of time."

February 26th

WM. GRAYSON AND JAS. MADISON, DELEGATES IN CONGRESS, TO THE GOV. OF VIRGINIA.

New York

A Mr. Huff, from Winchester, has farmed the exclusive privildege of transporting the mail from Alexandria to Pittsburgh for seven years, and from Winchester to Staunton. On a supposition that the same person would also contract for the road from Richmond to Staunton, we applied to Congress for a resolution to impower the Post M. Gen'l to farm the transportation of the mail on this route for the same period, which has been obtained.

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BOND OF JOHN PENDLETON, J'N'R, 1787.

In the penalty of Ten Thousand Pounds, current money, for the faithful performance of his duties as Auditor of Public Accounts, &c. March 1st

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COLO. THOS. MERIWETHER, March 1st

Militia officers delinquent, &c

In conformity with the 9th Rule for conducting his office, reports to the Governor that all the County Lieutenants, except those of Louisa, Fayette, Rockingham, Nansemond, and Shanando, are delinquent, in not making Returns of the whole of their militias within 40 days after their General musters, and that the Returns received are deficient in form. All the Co. Lieutenants are further delinquent in not complying with the law by rendering an account of all monies received and disbursed by them on or before the 31st December in every year.

ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO CAPT. SAM'L NEWELL, March 3d

Goodwood Arthur Campbell

Enclosing a Talk, to be conveyed to the cheif of the Cherokees, and accurately interpreted. The safety of the Frontier and the Powell's Valley people require this. The conduct of the Kentucky detachment, most reprehensible in attacking defenceless Indians, neighbors and friendly, and sparing the inimical Chickamoggas. This is reversing established maxims, making enemies of friends.

THE TALK.

HOLSTEIN RIVER, March 3d, 1787.

Brother:

It is with great concern that we hear that a number of your Towns' people have lately been killed by some white men between Clinch river and Cumberland mountain, and that you blame the Virginians for it, As to who has done it, I cannot certainly say, but have heard that 100 men from Kentuckey has gone towards Chickamogga Towns to take satisfaction for the murder that was done on the Kentuckey path last October, and what made the people exceeding angry, was that they heard they captives, mostly women, were all burnt in the Chickamogga Towns.

You know when the Americans goes to war they kill no prisoners, and trys to save alive all the women and children. Warriors will only seek to fight with men; cowards may go to war with women.

Brother, listen attentively: Ever since the year 1781, when your Towns were all destroyed for joining the English against us, the Virginians buried the Tomhake deep, and never wish to raise it again against their Brothers,

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1787. March 3d

the Cherokees, but are willing to live in friendship as long as the moon endures. It will be your fault, if that friendship is broken. I will venture to promise further, that none of the Virginians living on this side of the Cumberland mountain will molest the Cherokees without first obtaining orders from our Governor, who is a good man, and will see that you have justice done if you remain peaceable. He will also call the Kentucky people to account, if they have been guilty of destroying any of the friendly Cherokees.

Brother, Call a Council of your Head Men, Give them this *Talk*, exhort them to live peaceable and wait until the Governor of Virginia can hear all the truth, and if his people are to blame he will give you satisfaction and put a stop to future wrongs; but if you rashly go to war and kill innocent people, there may be a great deal of blood shed, for we can send a great army against you that may destroy you altogether.

Listen well. You must see that I have now given you good advice, both for you and your nation. Send me in return an answer, a very long Talk. Tell me all that is in your heart. If you are for keeping the Chain of friendship bright, I will be your friend as heretofore,* and do you all the good I can. It will give me pleasure to use means to heal the wounds and dry up the tears of those that have lost their friends, and be strong in endeavours to do justice to all the red people that keeps the peace and loves the Americans.

(A Copy.)

Signed ARTHUR CAMPBELL.

To ye Great warrior of the Cherokees.

March 5th

J. AMBLER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Treasury office

Scarcity of money and appropriation for State boats

No money in the Contingent Fund. Col. Parker, Naval Officer, had just paid in £593. 16. 6., specie tonnage money, but it should be recollected that £2,000 of the Tonnage is applied to the support of the State Boats. Money will not be wanted very soon for these, but he cannot apply any part of the Tonnage money until the appropriation for the Boats is secured, but as no demand on this account will be made for three months, the Executive might direct what now lies dormant to be applied to the exigencies of Government.

Desires to know how Mr. Rose's warrants for support of the P. Jail are to be paid.

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*Squallicuttah (the now great Warrior of the Cherokees), his House and property, was prohibited from plunder in the Expedition of 1781, for which he has frequently expressed his gratitude.

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PETITION OF CLIFTON RODES, FROM SHERIFF OF ALBEMARE COUNTY, TO THE EXECUTIVE, — 1787.

For releif against the Execution of the Judgment of the Gen'l Court for deficiency in the collection of Revenue of the years 1783 and 1784, owing to the great scarcity of money and distresses of the people—solemnly avers he was an entire stranger to the acts of speculation, and never, directly or indirectly, endeavoured to lessen the public Revenue by the purchase of public Securities of any kind. In support of this assertion begs leave to report to the Certificates of Sundry Gentlemen, Residents of the City of Richmond, who, it is well known, are principally engaged in this Business, viz: Saml. Paine, Geo. Pickett, Francis Graves, Wm. Hay, Jno. Barret & Co., Irving, Galt & Co.

March 5th
Richmond
Dealers in public securities, &c

J. H. NORTON TO LEIGHTON WOOD, J'N'R. — March 6th

Having learned that under the Law the Solicitor was required to give security in the sum of Ten Thousand Pounds for the faithful execution of his office, he is willing to join Mr. Peter Lyons and Mr. David Cochran and others in his Bond, with the consent of the Executive.

Winchester
Security to be given

JOHN EDMUNDSON TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH, — March 8th

In behalf of Ensign Wm. Shephard, who had been inadvertently left out of commission by the Co. Court, and Richard Gwathmey put in his place. He had been commissioned Ensign by Patrick Henry, in 1779, before second lieutenants were known in the Militia, and was entitled to hold his office as long as he behaved himself, and his Company being anxious he should be retained, his Excellency and Council, it is hoped, will decide in his favour.

Essex county
Ensigns and Lieutenants

MAJOR JOHN REID TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH, — March 8th

Applying for remuneration for his expenditures and services in making the journey to the Chickasaw Nation in the spring of 1783, to induce the Cheifs to meet the Commissioners appointed by Virginia to treat for

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1787. March 8th Journey of Major John Reid from Richmond to the Chickasaw nation, &c

peace at the French Lick, with statements from Col. John Donelson, Isaac Shelby and others, in support of his claim. Major Reid, in April, 1783, had come to Col. Isaac Shelby's house, in Lincoln Co., with despatches from Gov. Harrison to the Cheifs of the Chicasaw Nation, with letters from Col. J. Donelson and Jos. Martin, and with request that he should become one of the Commissioners. He himself had just returned from the French Lick, and had there heard of the destitute condition of the Chicasaws, and on this account suggested the first full moon in October as a proper time for holding the Treaty, being the 10th of the month. Early in May Maj. Reid set out from his house on his journey to the Chickasaws, by way of French Lick. At this place he was delayed until July—until he could procure proper guides, the distance being about three hundred miles, through forests infested by hunting parties of hostile Indians. He arrived at the Chickasaw Towns on the 2d August, prevailed on the Cheifs to attend the Council, furnished them with provisions on the way, and afterwards at the French Lick, where they arrived late in October. Col. Shelby adds: "The Journey that Major Reid performed on this occasion was a long and dangerous trip, and I am persuaded that few persons who might have been trusted with an affair of its importance could have been prevailed on to undertake so hazardous an enterprise."

March 8th

COL. JOHN DONELSON,

Major Reid's journey

Certifies that Major John Reid was Imployed on the 6th Feb., 1783 to Ride to Richmond, with Dispatches to his Excellency, Benj. Harrison, Esq'r., Gov. of Virg'a, Relative to the Indian Treatys, and did not return to Holsten's River 'till the 14th April following, to the Block-house, when he set out for the Chickasaw nation, from whence he returned to the French Lick, on Cumberland, some time before the 10th of Oct. following, And waited on the Chickasaws's Kings and Cheiffs untill the Comm's'rs arrival, which was untill the 20th Inst. And that he did attend the Treaty with them people and returned to the Block-house, on Holston's River, on the 15th December following, and from thence proceeded on his way to Richmond. The Distance from the s'd Block-house to the French Lick Being computed 400 miles, and Thence to the Chickasaw's Nation 275, the whole of which road Being Dangerous from the many Indian depredations, as also mostly uninhabited. * * * *

For his journey he had to furnish a Ling'ister and guides, two horses and a boy, adds: "I most humbly conceive that Major Reid, considering the Danger of the Business, the many hardships and Difficulties which he has on the Occation passed through, should be amply rewarded:

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THE STATE OF VIRGINIA TO JOHN REID,	DR.	1787.
1783.		Account of his expenses.
Ap'l 14th—To riding from the Cherokee Nation to Richmond, and returning to the block-house on Holston river, at the instance of Joseph Martin, with dispatches to the Governor from the 12th of Feb'y, 1783, to the date, with my expenses, &c., 62 days, at 6s. p'r day	———	
Dec. 12th—To riding from the Block-house on Holston to the Chickasaw Nation and back again with two horses and a servant, with expenses attending from 14th April, 1783, to the date, 242 days, at 6s. p. day.....	———	
1784.		
Feb. 23d—To riding and being detain'd by the badness of the weather and the Ice., &c., &c., from the block-house on Holston from the 12th of December, 1783, to the date, with expenses attend'g 73 days.....	———	
To allowance for my expenses while in Richmond, and returning to Holston, the place of my residence, and pay.....	———	
To a horse stolen by the Indians, while on the above mentioned business.....	£ 30.	
To paid Malcolm McGee, Interpreter for the Chickasaw Treaty.....	£ 38. 12. 0.	
To paid Malachi Fry, as Guide to the Nation,	15. 6.	
To paid George Flin, " " " " "	17. 2.	
To 1½ quarts of whiskey furnish'd the Indians.....	7. 9.	

To the Great Waryors an Cheiffs of the Chickasaws' Nation of Indians:

Friends and Brothers:

Address carried by Major Reid

The great Council of Virginia haveing Appointed us, the Subscribers, Commissioners to meet such of your Cheiffs as may be appointed By your nation, We gladly Receive the Command, wishing for an opportunity of facilitating a happy peace with your nation, not doubting But that the Great man Above will smile on our Friendly Intentions.

In order thereto, we have sent Maj'r John Read, one of our waryers, to wait on You, and to appoint a time and place of meeting, when we flatter

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1787. March 8th ourselves of a friendly Interview, and that our Determination may be perfectly agreeable to both Countries.

We subscribe ourselves

Your Friends and Brothers,

JOSEPH MARTIN,
JNO. DONELSON,
ISAAC SHELBY.

March 9th

ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Washington county

Since my last I have received certain advices that a party of men, something less than one hundred, was sent out from Lincoln County under Colo. John Logan, to attack and destroy a Small Town of the Cherokees that lies on the north side of the Tenasee and below Cumberland Mountain, who are blamed with depredations on the Kentucky-Path. That after traveling a few days they came on a fresh trace of Indians, and pursued until they cross'd Cumberland Mountain. Not far from thence they fell in with the Indians, Killed seven, among whom was a Chief, and wounded several others. Our people had one man killed and another wounded. The party of Indians proves to be hunters from the friendly Towns, to the number of 17, and was returning with their skins. The Chief that was killed belonged to Chota. On the news reaching the Towns the Indians assembled in a rage, blamed the Virginians, and threatened to take satisfaction. Since this event, a Deputation from the Creeks, Choctaws, and Chickassas pass'd through the Cherokee Towns, and is now at Mr. Sevier's on Nola-Chuckee. They are conducted by a Mr. Wood and Mr. Wells, and say they are going to Congress to lay before them the true state of the affairs of the Southern Indians.

Attack upon friendly Indians by mistake

Whether this measure of the other Tribes, and the pains that has been taken to excuse the Virginia Government from intentionally attacking the friendly Cherokees, may divert them from their purpose of revenge, seems to be doubtful, as appearances of hostile parties has lately been discovered in the wilderness near the Kentucky-Path.

The essay I have made to prevent blood-shed I hope will meet with the approbation of Government.

I am, hon'ble Sir,

Your most obedient Servant, &c., &c.

March 9th

WM. SINCLAIR TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Ohio county

Applying to be appointed Surveyor N. West of the Ohio River, on behalf of the State of Virginia, in place of Major Parker, resigned. Col. Hutchings, Geographer and surveyor-General, had deputed a Young man from Connecticut, which likely will Draw Virginia's Proportion to Centre in that State. He is ready to give the security required upon the smallest notice.

Surveyor for the northwest

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ANDREW DUNSCOMB 1787.

Requests the Executive of Va. to certify to the Auditor of Public Accounts the sallary allowed him as Commissioner for ascertaining and stating the claims of this Commonwealth against the United States. March 12th Richmond

BOND OF CHRISTOPHER ROANE, March 13th

In the penalty of one thousand pounds current money, for the faithful performance of the duties of Searcher, in which bond he is joined by Edm'd Ruffin, J'n'r, and Wm. Poythress.

CAPT. JOHN JOUETT TO GOV'R RANDOLPH. March 16th

Sir:

I arrived at this place the 27th day of last month, and have exerted myself with all the occonomy and industry I was master of to raise men to guard the public Stores to the mouth of Dick's river; but, much to my surprise, found the men were not to be had on any other terms than to be well paid for their Labour. I have engaged eight men, and not one for less than five pounds Virginia Currency. The Boat cost upwards of Thirty pounds, with a Canoe and Cloth to cover the boat, which will be sold with the boat. I shall sale the eighteenth, at all events, with what men I have recruited, if I can get no more. I have all the men's receipts for their pay and their Obligations for their performances in the boats. Capt. Price arrived at this place yesterday with the Arms, &c., and more than one muskett missing. They came to hand very rusty, a number of the ramrods lost, but can't inform you how many. A few of the Locks a little hurt, but easily repaired. You will see, by my receipts, the quantity of powder, which was delivered in very good order, as Capt. Price had twenty-two new casks made at Winchester and stored it into the same. The Bayonetts, not more than one or two missing, and in good order. The Gentlemen at Point Fork refused to deliver the flints. Capt. Rice bought, for the use of the Boat, 50 flints and 25 lbs. of large shott, which he has my receipt for. I now beg leave to spend my opinion about the care Captain Rice has taken of the arms, &c. I think it was not possible for the arms to be delivered in better order, or with less damage, as he was obliged to Pack the arms eighty miles thro' the mountains without cover, but am sorry to say the arms were, Generally, the worst I ever saw. They were all old pieces repaired, and of every kind that ever was made, but am sure it was yours as well the Legislature's wish for us to have the best that could be procured, and am as thankfull as tho' they were the best in the world.

Redstone Old Fort

Measures taken to transport the arms

Condition of the arms, &c received

I have the honor to be' &c.

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1787. March 16th — *Receipt enclosed* for twenty-three casks, containing two thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight pounds of powder, also four hundred and ninety-nine musketts with bayonets, from Point of Fork, &c.

March 16th

JOS. MARTIN TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH, OF VA.

Sir:

Long Island

At my arrival to this place, the Assembly of the pretended State of Franklin was sitting. I have been waiting some time to know the event.

State of Franklin Land Office opened

They have opened the Land office for that part of the Land lying between French Broad and the Tenasee, which the Legislature of North Carolina ceded to the Cherokee Indians. The people are settling as far as the Banks of the Tenesse, and have Improved on the South side of the River, to the great disquiet of the Indians; in short, they seem to take every step that appears most productive to a war with them people. The Courts

Courts established

of Justice is again establish'd in Sullivan, Washington, and Hawkins Counties, under North Carolina, which courts are much offended at the Behaviour of the Franklinites respecting Indian affairs. Sullivan and

General Logan's attack on Crow Town

Hawkins are very unanimous in favour of the old State. Washington much divided between Tipton and Sivere. Col. John Logan, from Kentucky, marched with about 130 men against a small Town that lies on the north side of Tenesse, called Crow Town, but, missing his way, fell in with some Hunters belonging to Chickamoga, killed seven, which has exasperated the Indians very much. One of their warriors set out immediately with a party to kill the Traders in the old Towns, but an Indian, who inclined to be Friendly, with the assistance of a good Horse, reach'd the Towns

Notice given, and escape

a few minutes before the others and gave notice to the Traders, who made their escape. They lost all their property except the horses they rode. At the arrival of the Indians they were in great rage that the Traders got notice. They shot the Indian's Horse who informed them, took the goods, &c., and returned to Chickamogga, leaving word that they lived there, and any person that wanted satisfaction let them come there. He then refers to a certain John Woods, an adventurer, who had lived with the Choctaws, and at Fort Natchez with the Spaniards; had been driven off by the latter; subsequently appointed Continental commissioner among the Choctaws and discharged on account of incapacity, and being now in desperate circumstances was about to appeal to Congress for an appointment, and would doubtless give his Excellency a call. Warns him against this man and his associate, one Owens. He should set out the next day for the Cherokees with the prisoners referred to in his last letter, and should return as soon as practicable, and should keep the Governor informed of events by Express, &c.

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ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH. 1787.

Sir:

By a former opportunity I had the honor of transmitting to your Excellency some papers respecting our militia, and the apprehended danger from the Cherokee Indians on account of the attack made upon them from Kentucky. On the ninth instant the Indians killed three persons in a Settlement called Castle's Woods, near Clinch river. The enemy appeared to be but few in number and went off in great haste, without attempting to carry off Horses or other kind of booty. Some blames the Cherokees for this onset, but there is more reason to suppose it was the Shawnese, as that nation has, for some time past, been very troublesome in Kentucky, having killed and captivated upwards of twenty persons since new Year.

March 17th
Washington county

Orders, or papers sent by the bearer, Mr. Urban Ewing, would be safely delivered, &c.

THOMAS JACKSON TO COL. JOS. MARTIN, SUPERINTENDANT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS. March 18th

Dear Sir:

I have just returned from an unlucky Tower to the Cherokees. I had been in the towns but about three weeks when I received information, by an Indian man, that a partey, at the head of whom was the Foot warrior, was a comeing to Tillico, where I then was, to take satisfaction for some of their relations who had been killed on Clinch for Horse stealing. These fellows pressed so close that I was hardly out of sight before they reached the Town, and finding they had missed us (for their was another white man in the Town with me), the foot warrior was so inraged that he emediatly looked for the man who gave us intelligence, and seeing his Horse hitched at a Door, he shot him down. The fellow who owned him and gave me the intelligence was layin on a Cabbin in the House, and when he heard the Gun he jumped to the door, when the foot warrior told him he had a great mind to kill him for letting the white people know he was coming, but since he could not get our scalps he would take our property, which he did.

North-fork on Holston

Indian revenge

Foot-warrior

The property taken consisted of Horses and furs, belonging to himself and one Tom Cade, who, a short time afterwards, was himself killed by two Indians with whom he had been at variance a long time, &c.

SUNDRY CITIZENS March 20th

Recommend Capt. Lewis Jones, of that place, for the office of Searcher for that port, as he hath been accustomed to goe by water and served in the navy of this State during the war.

Port Royal, Virginia

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1787. COPY OF BOND

March 21st Harrison county, Virginia. of Wm. Haymond, Nicholas Carpenter, John Powers, Hezekiah Davisson, Thos. Webb, John McCally, Daniel Davisson, Benj. Wilson, John Prunty, George Jackson, Benj. Coplin, John Goodwin, Edward Jackson, and John P. Duvall, in the penalty of four thousand pounds current money, for the faithful performance of their duties as Commissioners under the Act of Assembly, authorizing "the opening a waggon Road from the State Road to the mouth of the Little Kenhawa," &c.

March 21st W. SHORT TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Paris Bust of Lafayette By direction of Mr. Jefferson, who is absent, I have the honor of forwarding to your Excellency the *proceedings of the City of Paris on the reception of the Marquis de la Fayette's bust, presented to them by the State of Virginia. The French Packet, which sails in a few days, furnishes the first opportunity which has been offered of conveying these proceedings, and I make use of it with very great pleasure, as it allows me to assure you, sir, of the sentiments of the most profound respect and perfect esteem, with which I have long had the honor of being

Your Excellency's most obedient and
most humble Servant, &c., &c.

March 21st PROCEEDINGS OF A GENERAL COURT MARTIAL,

Wednesday Bardstown Charges and specifications against Colonel H. McGary Held by order of the Council for the trial of Colonel Hugh McGary, of Mercer county, who was charged with murdering with a tomahawk or small ax one of the Cheifs or King of the Shawnese Indians, named Malunthy, after the said Cheif had surrendered himself a Prisoner of war, and was received as such and brought back to the Town of Macocheek.

Secondly, With acting in disobedience of orders, which was to spare all prisoners, which orders were never countermanded.

Thirdly, With behaving in a disorderly manner in insulting and abusing Lieutenant-Colo. Trotter, of Fayette County, for taking measures to prevent the Prisoners being murdered, and swore, by God, he would chop him down, or any other man who should attempt to hinder him from killing them at any time.

Fourthly, With abusing several Field Officers in a public manner, but who were absent at Limestone on the return of the Expedition; And his

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* Not found Enclosed.

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Conduct in general was unbecoming the character of a Gentleman and an Officer. 1787. March 21st

Also, for the trial of Colonel Robert Patterson and Lieutenant-Colonel James Trotter, of Fayette county, on complaint made by Colo. Hugh McGary, That they had impressed one Barrel of Rum at Limestone, where the Troops crossed the Ohio River, and by so doing, and drinking part of the same, and puting the Remainder on public Horses, and having twenty Beeves shot down without orders from the Commanding Officer, or making application to the Commissary for provisions, and he present, was the means of delaying the army more than one day. He further complained that Colonel Trotter gave his men positive orders to shoot down any man that killed an Indian after he was captured, and said orders given in time of action, and not known what might be the consequence the engagement. Whereof

Charges, &c., against Colonel Robert Patterson and Lieutenant-Colonel James Trotter, &c.

COLONEL ALEXANDER SCOTT BULLET was President.

MEMBERS.

Colo. Andrew Hynes,	Capt. David Cox,
Lieut.-Col. John Smith,	Capt. Thos. Cunningham,
Lieut-Col. James Rogers,	Capt. James Samuels,
Major Wm. Oldham,	Capt. Wm. Barnet,
Maj'r Anthony Crockett,	Capt. Joseph Kennedy, and
Capt. Moses Kerkendall,	Capt. Jacob Storns.

JOHN STEELE, Judge-Advocate.

* * * * The Court, on maturely considering the Evidence, together with the circumstances of the case, are of opinion that Colo. Hugh McGary is guilty of the first charge, viz: of murdering Molunthy, the Indian King, after he had surrendered himself a prisoner. Not guilty of the second charge, viz.: Disobedience of Orders.

Finding of the court.

Guilty of the third charge, viz.: of abusing Col. Trotter, &c. In part guilty of the fourth charge, viz.: That his conduct in general was unbecoming the character of an officer and a Gentleman; And Sentence him to be suspended for one year.

The court then proceeded, pursuant to adjournment, to consider the charges against Col. Robt. Patterson. Having considered the Charges and Evidence, are of opinion that the impressment of the Rum does not come under their notice, and that the legality or illegality of it ought to be determined by a civil Court. They are of opinion that the application of the Rum impressed by Col. Patterson was, in some measure, irregular.

Trial of Colonel Robert Patterson

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1787. March 21st. Sentence of the court in case of Colonel Patterson

He was guilty of disobedience of Orders in not making application to the Commissary, and in proceeding to have the Beef killed without his participation. They are of opinion that the army was not delayed by the irrigularity of killing the Beeves, but that some waste was incurred thereby, and sentenced him to be severely Reprimanded by Colonel Levi Todd, of Fayette County, at the head of his Regiment. There appearing no evidence against Col. Trotter, he was released and restored to his Command.

March 22d. York

THOS. NELSON, J'N'R, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

In behalf of Laurence Smith, sheriff of York, who had been induced to take that office by the Magistrates, with the view of restoring Order immediately after the capture of Yorktown, but who had not been able to collect taxes from a people whose County had been desolated by the Enemy, as had been the entire lower Country.

March 23d. Bordeaux

BILL OF LADING

For sixty-three cases of arms, shipped by Order of Thos. Jefferson, Esq., on account of the State of Virginia, to the Port of Dumfries, in that State.

March 24th. Richmond

VIRGINIA—*to wit:*

By his Excellency, EDMUND RANDOLPH, *Esquire*,
Governor of the Commonwealth:

A PROCLAMATION.

Proclamation in regard to the militia, &c

WHEREAS, the defence of the Commonwealth is by the laws placed in the Militia thereof, and no exertion for the maintenance of discipline ought to be omitted, I do therefore, by and with the advice of the Council of State, exhort all officers of the militia, of whatsoever rank, punctually and faithfully to discharge their respective duties; And I do moreover declare, that every person failing herein shall be prosecuted in the most exemplary manner allowed by law, But from my confidence in the patriotism and character of the officers, I most sanguinely hope that a resort to the penalties of the law will be unnecessary.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Commonwealth at Richmond, this twenty fourth day of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven.

EDM. RANDOLPH.

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COL. JOSEPH MARTIN TO GOV'R RANDOLPH. 1787.

Sir:

At my arrival Hear Found the Indians in Greater Confusion Than I Ever saw them. About Forty Had set out to war against Cumberland and Kentucky to Take Satisfaction For some of their Hunters that Was Killed by Colo. Logan. Several others were preparing to set out. I sent to the Different Towns for them all to attend this Day in Chota, Which they have done. I Had collected Four of their prisoners which was taken in the course of the war, and Delivered them this day, which had a wonderful affect. The Chieffs promises me that if the White People will let Them Remain in peace that nothing will Induce them To Take up the Hatchett or Join the Spaniards, but if they are to be killed whenever they Go to Hunt, they must have Satisfaction. That they have often complained to the white warriors without Redress. That the white people are daily settling their lands, &c. * * * *

March 25th Chota Indians in great confusion

Chiefs willing to be peaceable

They had Kill'd one of their traders a few Days Before I got in and Plundered several others.

The Franklynists Have open'd a Land Office For all the Lands Between French Broad River and Tennessee, which Lands the Legislature reserv'd for the Indians. It Includes part of their Beloved Town, Chota, and several of their Corn Feilds. I waited on some of their leaders with a Proclamation from Governor Caswell Ordering them off the S'd Lands. Their Reply was that they had knowledge Enough to judge for themselves; that they should not ask North Carolina nor no other power how they were to be Govern'd.

The Franklinists taking the Indian's lands

I am told by some Gentlemen Lately from Fort Natchez, who came through the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, that them Nations are much Displeased at the Incroachments on the Cherokee Lands. They also inform me that the Governor of Natchez has Published a manifesto ordering all Americans out of the two Nations. It is certain that Mr. Benjamin Jones, in the Choctaw Nation, has taken a Commission to the King of Spain, in consequence of Which he Refused to accept of one from Georgia. Mr. Jones is a man of character; has great Influence over the Indians; has Lived among them many years; was a known friend to America in the course of the late war. I shall do Every thing in my power to keep the Cherokees at peace, tho' I fear it will be out of my power, as the White People are Daily Setling on their Lands. Some have setled on the Banks of the Tennessee. I am well assured that nothing will Remove them but an armed Force.

From Fort Natchez

I have the Honour to be, with Great Respect, &c., &c.

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1787. TALK ENCLOSED WITH THE ABOVE.

Brother:

We are glad to see you, and give you a Harty welcome. We have been looking for You a great while to see if nothing can be done for us Respecting our Lands. When you went Away you told us that you Expected Colo. Hawkins from Congress every day; that he was a good man and would do something for us. But we have heard nothing from him yet. We now hope you can tell us something about him. We have held several Treaties with the Americans, when Bounds was always fixt and fair promises always made that the white People should not come over. But we always find that after a treaty they settle much faster than before, but when we Treated with Congress we made no doubt but we should have Justice. We have been often told by People a great way off that we should set still till all our Lands is Settled; the Americans only ment to Deceive us. We now begin to think it is true, tho' still hope that Congress will take pity on us and have their people moved off our Lands. I have done for to-day. I now want to hear what you have to say To us. We hope you will tell us all you have heard Since you left us, and give us your Advice, as you know all our concerns better than we do ourselves. A string of beads. The above Talk, was Delivered by the Hanging Man in Publick Convention, in Chota, the 24th March, 1787 to Joseph Martin, &c., &c.

Indian talk to Colonel J. Martin

The Americans take their lands

March 26th JOSEPH NEVILL

Hardy county

Encloses his Bond to the Masters of William and Mary College as Co. Surveyor to Gov. Randolph, with request for the commission.

March 26th ALEX'D'R BARNETT, CO. LIEUT., TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Russell county

The Indians attack Castle's woods

The eight Day of the present month, the indians made an attempt on Cassles woods, on Clinch, and killed a woman and Two Childring and made their Escape in Such a manner that they Cou'd not be followed with any certainty. The Inhabitants along our Frontier is scrupilous of a Troublesome season after the woods Git green with Leaves, and have ap'ly'd to me to order out spies, or some other way for their safety. On my Part I know not what to Do in it. The militia Law is silent in it as to spies or Look-outs in that sort, and wish, sir, to be instructed by you how to Direct in it. I have a very Extensive frontier to consider for, at Least one hundred and fourty or fifty miles in Length from Montgomery Line to the Distent End in Powal's Valley, and not more than fifteen miles inhabited in the wedth at the widest place, others not more than Ten or Twelve, or about that mention, and nearly all parts of it Exposed to the

Extent of frontier to guard

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Ravage of the Enemy in time of the indian ware. My Request is, that your Honour may consider our situation and order something by way of spies for our safety. And please to point out in your instructions to me the —— allowed p'r Day, and what the payment will be made in, for spies or Look-outs. 1787. March 26th

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COL. JOS. NEVILL TO GOV'R RANDOLPH. March 27th

He is much in want of money to pay off the Expenses of the cutting the Road which was to be cut by this State and the State of Maryland over the Allegania mountain. The agent for the State of Maryland had furnished his quota, but on account of the irregularities in the collecting the Taxes, for which he had received warrants, endorsed by the Treasurer, he had been disappointed in procuring the necessary funds. Hardy county Road over the Allegany mountain

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WM. ROSE, KEEP. P. JAIL, March 28th

Giving number of Prisoners confined, reports three tried and convicted of Felony as having Prayed and obtained their Clergy, were burnt in the Hand in open C't, and as a farther condition for their offence were sentenced to one year's imprisonment without bail. Richmond

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JOHN BONDFIELD TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA, March 30th

Enclosing Invoice, Inspector's certificate, and Bill of Lading for sixty-three cases of arms, shipped by order of Thos. Jefferson, Esq'r., on account of the State of Virginia, p'r ship Sally, bound to Dumfries, or any other port more convenient to the arsenal. Bordeaux

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DAVID ROSS TO GOV. RANDOLPH, March 30th

In reply, declining to part from his Fee simple Estate in the Property at Point of Fork, that Port being in the heart of his Estate. He is, however, willing to accommodate the Publick with sufficient ground upon lease and upon reasonable terms. In pursuance of an Order of the Executive of the 19th Dec., 1785, and after having informed Gov. Henry of his intention, he had gone to Point of Fork and laid off ten acres of land around the buildings, being sufficient for gardens, &c., and fifty acres additional for pasturage, &c., for the use of the State, but as no one attended under the authority of the Executive, no determination had ever been reached in the matter. Calls attention to his claims still standing against the State. Richmond

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1787. M. OSTER, FRENCH CONSUL (IN FRENCH) TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

April 1st Williamsburg — Applying for an order from the Executive to prevent the departure for France of M. S. Deschamps, a Debtor to Le S'r Benjamin Dessenis, who is also a French citizen. His consular powers afford no protection to M. Benj. Dessenis.

April 2d — ED. CARRINGTON TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

New York. Effect of State legislation on the commerce of the country — * * * I lament exceedingly the situation into which our Trade is thrown under the late Laws. It will occasion a diminution of the Revenue, which we are in no condition to bear. This circumstance evinces the impossibility of managing the Trade of America by State Arrangements, and necessity of vesting the foederal Head with full authority over that and every Interest of like general nature. Until this is the case, State schemes will be pursued with surreptitious views against each other, which must eventually destroy a source of Revenue that might be immensely valuable to the whole Union, and every effort prohibiting of foreign articles will also be vain. * * *

The Resolutions upon the proposed Convention between the States of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania have been laid before Congress and referred to a Committee, who have reported favourably. * * * * The House of Assembly of New York have passed an Act to authorize the Delegates of that State in Congress to accede to, ratify and confirm the Independence and Sovereignty of Vermont, and it is understood that it will pass the Senate and Council of revision. * * * * It is suggested that there may arise a difficulty upon the point of participation in the public burthen heretofore incurred.

By some late acts of Rhode Island it appears that the current of madness in that State has not yet completed its course. The Assembly have decided, by a majority of upwards of twenty, not to send deputies to the Convention, and by the same majority they have declined to aid the State of Massachusetts in apprehending the Insurgents who have taken refuge amongst them.

I have the honor to be, with due respect,
Your Excellencie's
most obed't serv't, &c., &c.

April 10th — WM. RONALD TO THE EXECUTIVE,

Powhatan county — Praying relief of Mr. Josiah Smith, late Collector of taxes of that county. Every reputable man in the county would testify that Mr. Smith had been diligent and faithful in the discharge of his duties, that he had not speculated in the public monies, as was too common amongst the Sheriffs and

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Collectors, But that his failure to pay in the taxes was due to the poverty of the people of that county who had always cheerfully done their duty to the Country. Their crops of wheat, on which they had chiefly depended, had failed three years consecutively, leaving them scarcely enough for seed, and until the last crop of Tobacco should come into market they could not find relief. 1787. April 10th

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WILLIAM LEWIS, SEARCHER, April 10th

Informs the Governor he cannot longer remain in office on the salary of £50, he being prohibited thereby from being concerned in Trade of any kind. Fredericksburg, Va.

ED. CARRINGTON TO GOV. RANDOLPH, April 12th

Informing him that Congress had, the day before, appointed Mr. John Pierce, late Paymaster-General, to succeed Mr. Fox as Commissioner for settlements of the Illinois accounts and the expences incurred by Virginia in subduing the British and other posts in the northwest, that territory having been ceded by her to the United States, out of which to form new States. New York

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COL. SAM'L HOPKINS TO THE GOVERNOR, April 12th

Complaining of the hasty and unwarranted action of the Co. Court in their late recommendations of field officers for the militia. The greatest disgust excited in the community. He encloses letters from other prominent citizens of like nature. One from Col. Lewis Burwell, who refers particularly to one Johnson, put upon the list of recommendations, and says of him: "unless he can be removed we shall lose the services of some of our best officers." In addition to other reasons that can be given for removing Johnson, He and Roger Grigory, both magistrates, and Johnson, a nominal Lt.-Colonel, stood by and see Wm. Hunt, S'n'r, father of Presley, tear down and curse the Gov'r's proclamation, and treat both that and the young Gentleman that set it up with the greatest indignity. These two men, I say, stood by and never say'd one word. Mecklenburg county Indignation at the action of the court in recommending officers, &c

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ED. CARRINGTON TO GOV. RANDOLPH, April 13th

In reference to the resignation of Mr. Fox and appointment of Mr. Pierce as his successor, to arrange the accounts of Virginia with the U. States. The latter, distinguished for his abilities and integrity. The reduced state of the Treasury had necessitated the discharge of all the Troops enlisted under the act of Oct., 1786, except two companies of Artillery, one to be

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1787. April 13th — stationed at Springfield, Mass., and another at West Point. This measure was most unpalatable to the disbanded Troops, but there was no alternative, especially as the Government was greatly in arrears to those stationed on the Ohio, nor have we a prospect of paying them; He adds: "The February packet, of his most Christian majesty, arrived here last Monday morning from Havre de Grace. Colo. Franks, the bearer of the public dispatches from Paris, informs that before the sailing of the Packet, accounts were received at Havre of the death of the Count Vergennes. Our letters from Mr. Jefferson mentions his indisposition, and that it occasioned great anxiety."

His most Christian Majesty has adopted the measure of a general convention upon the national concerns. The meeting of the Notables was to have been on the 29th January, but was put off to the 7th or 8th February. * * * * *

Our Friend, the Marquis de la Fayette, was originally placed on the list, aferwards his name disappeared, but was finally reinstated. It seems his education in the American School draws on him the jealous Eye of some whose principles are more assimilated to their own despotic Government. He has, however, the favorable disposition of the King and the good will of the people. He is the youngest man upon the list of notables except one, whose office placed him there. This is a distinction no less honorable and flattering to *us* than to *him*.

Mr. Jefferson observes that the Tumults in America have not produced these unfavourable effects upon the public opinion in Europe which might have been expected; on the contrary, the small effect they had, and the interposition of the people on the side of government, have given an additional confidence in the firmness of our Governments.

He encloses papers* containing a speech of a Mr. Harrison against the Vermont Bill, or rather in behalf of non-residents who held lands there, and one of Col. Hamilton's in answer thereto.

April 14th — COL. JOHN HARVIE TO THE EXECUTIVE,

Presenting his Bill of £50, for the rent of a House used as the Land office for one year.

April 14th — COL. BENJ. LOGAN, COUNTY LIEUT., TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Lincoln county

May it Please Your Excellency:

Precarious state of things in Kentucky, and Indian outrages

I take Liberty to inform you of the situation of this Destrict on Indian Affairs since I left Richmond. Before I got to Kentucky the Cherikie Indiens had kill'd men at defferent places and stole Horses from the inhabitants of Lincoln. A party of our men had followed thes Indians and

* Not found.

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took their horses and kill'd the Indiens. Then seventy men set out under the Command of Colo. John Logan and followed the Indian trails. In less than forty Miles from where the Indians destroyed thirty-four people last October, our men came on there camps where the had hunted apearingly all the fall. The followed and overtook the Indiens, kill'd seven and wounded others. I hear since, by the way of Carolina, that only two out of fifteen got home. I also hear it is well known in a neighborhood in South Carolina, where General Pickens trades with the Cherikies, that them Indiens did the damage in the Wilderness, and took a number of the horses and property into Chekemagie. I have been furder inform'd by prisoners come from the shawnies, one which was exchanged for, and one which Ran away, that the Cherikies took ten prisoners, of which was taken on the Road, to the Shaney Country and put them all to Death. Damages are frequently done on defferent quarters in this Country, but I can not be certain what nation does it of late.

1787. April 14th

Retaliation

Outrages in other quarters

I have been latly inform'd that a private Recommendation has been made by Colo. George Mutter, Judge of the destrict court, and Harvey Innes, Attorney-General of said Court, for four Gentlemen to be commissioned by Congress to transact Indian affairs in the Destrict of Kentuckey. If this be the case, as I have Reason to beleave it is, I can not help remarking the partiality of these men; for Colo. Mutter has spoake to me since and said if I did not go to meet the Shawnies no Buisness could be done by any other person with that Nation. Mr. Innes has made personal aplication to me, and Express'd himself that no ten men in Kentuckey would answer as good a purpose to treat with the Shawnies as I wood, but the did not know I had knowledge the had made such Recommendation to your Excellency when the solicited me to do the Buisness. Mr. Innes has made an offer of his service to me as Clark, if I will meet the Indians. I do expect that is the place he expects from those he has Recommended. I beleave I could prove the Recommendation was made, and I am sure I can prove Mr. Innes solicited me to do the Buisness. But not withstanding these little twists can be made by Indeviduals and Gentlemen of Destinktion, let there Reasons Either be self Intrust or prejudice, it shall not have that effect on me to neglect any Matter Relative to Public Buisness, wherein the Intrust of Kentuckey is so much depending. I confess I am greatly at a loss how to proceed with that nation on the present Oction, as I have no Instructions from Your Excellency or from Congress, but it apears there is a needcessaty for something to be done, and the Indiens have sent me a speach which I have answer'd, and the people in general wishes me to transact the Buisness at present, which I intend to do to the best of my judgment, hoping Your Excellency will take such measures as will best answer the Public in General concerning Indien affairs. It would give me Pleasure at any time only to hear what Your Excellency and Councíl would either Derect or Advise us to do for our own safty.

Commission to take charge of Indian affairs

Conduct of Mr. Innes

Necessity of doing something to protect Kentucky

A Court Martiel was held on the 20 of March in the County of Nelson,

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1787. April 14th The court martial held for trial of Colonel McGary, Patterson and Trotter

on Colo's Magary, Patterson and Trotter. I was call'd on as a witness, and was there. Each party Endeavored to clear themselves by making apear the Acted by my Orders, and had near Eight Hundred men to chuse such Witnesses as best Answer'd their purpose. I think I got some side Blows from some of the Witnesses which took umbridge at me on the Expedetion which I had no Opertunity to defend. I expect their Evidence stands on the proceedings of the Court Martiel. If it tends to my Prejudice on a fair hearing, I am able to justify my conduct before any Court of Justice on earth.

I am Your Excellency's

Most Ob't and Humble Serv't, &c., &c.

April 15th

COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

A favourable crisis seems to have arrived to extend the authority of the United States to the Westward, and in an especial manner the Trade of Virginia.

Toboca, the Indian Chief

Toboka, a principal cheif of the Chocta nation is on his way to New York to pay a visit to Congress, and to accelerate the engagements of the late commissioners at Seneca to have a post established on the Tenasee near the Muscle Shoals, in order that his people and the Chicasas may be supplied from thence with merchandise.

Importance of securing the navigation of the Mississippi

I am well persuaded that if the attachment of these two powerful Tribes can be secured, it will have more influence to facilitate the navigation of the Mississippi than all the efforts and threats the Kentuckey people can make use of for years to come. It will draw large sums in hard dollars into Virginia, and vast quantities of rich Furs, besides it will operate powerfully to restrain the predatory excursions of the Creek Indians and Cherokees.

Effect of bringing the Indians by way of Richmond

Impressed with the importance of the subject, and viewing matters in the light I do, I could hesitate to advise the conductor, Capt. Wood, to change his intended route through the Agusta Valley and to go by the way of Richmond. This may exalt the Indian king's notions of the power and opulence of our country, and point out the facility of supplying the Southern Indians with goods by the way of James river and the Tenasee.

Since forwarding your Excellency's late dispatches, I am told Dr. White is returned to Newbern, being discouraged in Georgia from attempting his intended tour through the Country of the Southern Indians. And that Colo. Martin is in Georgia, being about to remove his family into that State.

Indian agent

Our resort seems now to be in having your Excellency's message delivered and explained by another hand, and to amuse the Indians with the great things that will be done on Toboka's and Capt. Wood's return.

I am, hon'ble sir, your most obedient Serv't, &c.

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P. S.—Since writing the above I have seen the* ordinance of the United States for the Regulation of Indian Affairs. And it is much to be lamented that the Superintendant for the Southern District has failed in his tour through the Indian Country. He would have discovered that somewhere on the Tenasee would be the proper place of his residence; and that it may be principally attributed to the villianous Traders, living in the Indian Towns, that predatory excursions are excited. A proof which some of the property of the unfortunate family's last October, in the Wilderness, have been lately bought by white Traders in the Cherokee old Towns.

Your feelings of humanity will excuse the length of this postscript. It is an interesting subject, and will be earnestly plead and insisted on by the Kentucky people for their violent and improper reprisals.

1787. April 15th

ED. CARRINGTON TO GOV'R RANDOLPH, IN REPLY. April 16th

* * * We shall do ourselves the honor to lay before Congress all the intelligence you have been pleased to transmit respecting the Cherokee Indians, as the best excuse for the steps you have pursued. It is certainly the duty of the Indian Agent to correspond with the Governors of the different States in cases where they may respectively be concerned, and I cannot account for the neglect of Doctor White, within whose destrict the Cherokees are, in the present instance, except that his time and attention have been engrossed by the more Southern nations, whose hostilities upon the Frontier of Georgia more especially occasioned his appointment. We shall take care to call the attention of Congress to this circumstance.

New York

I have the Honor to be, with great respect, &c., &c.

JOHN WATTS TO JOHN RANDOLPH. April 16th

The number of men ordered to be recruited for the Troop of Cavalry obtained. Having received no instructions from Gen'l Knox relative to the clothing, Horses, and accoutrements, he take the liberty of addressing his Excellency on the subject. He has no money to pay or clothe them, and the sick had needed attention. The little attention paid them had been cruel indeed, but as every exertion has been made by the officers to obtain the full complement of men, he flatters himself they are such as will not reflect Discredit on their country or officers.

Winchester

Troop of Cavalry raised

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* Passed August 7th, 1786,

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1787. L. WOOD, J'N'R, SOLICITOR, TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

April 17th Failure of the sheriff to collect the taxes

Enclosing memorial of Mr. Geo. Robertson, late sheriff of Chesterfield, praying for relief, he being liable for deficiency in the collections of Taxes for 1782 and '83. The great extent of country, scattered inhabitants, and great poverty and unwillingness of the people to purchase distrained property, the unavoidable causes of his failure.

April 17th *To his Excellency*, EDMUND RANDOLPH, *Esq.*,
and the Hon'ble, the Council of State:

Gloucester county Depressed condition of the country during and after the war

*The petition of the Inhabitants of the County of Gloucester humbly sheweth, that during the late War with Great Britain your petitioner's situation was such that it was with difficulty they could support their families, and entirely out of their power to lay up money for future exigencies, as the paper money, at the close of the war, was reduced to be of no value. Little or no Tobacco could be made in the county for many years before. The lands a long time all cleared and worn out. Stocks of cattle much reduced by a Distemper which raged among them for several years. At the seige of York and Gloucester Town numbers were taken to support the armies. The few left was again much reduced by the severe winter of 1784. Under these circumstances your petitioners found it impossible to support themselves by the cultivation of Tobo., which added to the great scarcity of corn, for two or three years since the war, render it out of your Petitioners' power to pay such heavy taxes, as at present they are loaded with, without selling Lands or Negroes. This your Petitioners would not hesitate to do, wou'd they fetch near their value. Ship-building, which employed at least four hundred of the Inhabitants, formerly brought in the County a little money, and, indeed, was the only article that did bring in any cash, now entirely at a stand. The carpenters, upon this stagnation of that business, betook themselves to getting lumber, which they transported to Norfolk, where they got not more than three-fourths of what it used to sell for, and that in goods at least 25 or 30 p'r c't more than the cash price. But, alass! that resource is over—timber exhausted—trade so cramped that there is no demand for the little that is now got. It is with great regret your petitioners find themselves short of that happiness, ease and plenty, so much Boasted of upon an establishment of our Independence and peace, yet we flatter ourselves some future day will bring these blessings upon us or our posterity. But what will it avail if, before that happy period arrives, your Petitioners shou'd be reduced to

Ship-building, &c

*Signed by one hundred citizens, among whom appear the names of Parrott, Wise, Hodges, Jones, Glen, Hudgin, Iveson, Clopton, Curtis, Tabb, Bromley, Bassett, King, Kemp, Robins, Blake, Foster, Carter, Cary, Morris, Gregory, Yeatman, Fleming, Evans, Gwyn and others.

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all the miseries and evils of Poverty. No better prospect at present presents itself, and the time must soon arrive unless soon a speedy relief. 1787. April 17th

We beg leave to say no people has the Interest of their country more at heart. Did not your petitioners shew it thro'out the war? Can any people, situated as your petitioners, boast of so few having Joined the enimy, or exerted themselves more in their country's cause? We, your Petitioners, therefore hope that your Excellency and the Hon'ble Board will take into consideration our distressed situation and grant us such relief as to your Excellency and the Hon'ble Council may think meet, and your petitioners are in duty ever bound to pray. Patriotism of the people during the war

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Capt. Jno. Peyton to Col. T. Meriwether, April 19th

Expressing his surprise at the subject-matter of Mr. Jouett's letter to ye Executive, in regard to the arms and powder sent out to Kentucky from Point of Fork. He had been informed that the powder was indifferent, and of course was not benefited by the long transportation. The arms were equal to any at the Post, having been put in good order, tho' somewhat rusted by being kept in a building inadequate to their perfect preservation. Capt. Geo. Rice certifies that the 500 stand of arms removed by him from Point of Fork to Redstone, were part American, made at Hunter's works, and part English, Dutch and French, and were originally of good quality; had been well repaired and fitted with Ramrods and Bayonets; became rusty on the way out. He had informed Mr. Jouett he could not be well informed on this subject, or he would not have given so rash an opinion. Fluvanna county. Complaint of the arms sent to Kentucky, &c. Captain Rice's certificate

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Petition of Jonathan Patteson, April 23d

Late Sheriff of that County for relief against Judgement of the Gen'l Court for Interest and damages as delinquent in collecting the taxes of 1784. This not caused by his neglect or speculation in the public monies, but by the extreme poverty of the people, &c. Lunenburg county

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L. Wood, J'n'r, Solicitor, April 23d Solicitor's office, Richmond

Enclosing to the Governor receipts from the clerks of the several counties for the Acts of Assembly sent out by his Riders in February, with amount of Expenses incurred thereby, &c. Riders necessary to distribute the Acts of Assembly

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1787. * INSPECTION OF THE POST,

April 23d
Condition of the Port at Point of Fork

At Point of Fork discloses the following facts. In every instance disorder prevails. Arms arranged for service want repairs. Some of the salted beef so offensive that the men complained, and it was thrown away. The muskets in no respect assorted; many of the powder barrels without heads, and many not more than half full. The match is in the same room with the powder. Iron ball in there also. Not a lock upon any door fit for use. Gun locks in a heap, without care. Cartridge-boxes spoilt, being huddled together in a barrel. Many gun-barrels eaten up by rust, so that bayonets had to be made of them. There is a dark room, in which there seems to be a mixture of everything. In short, I find that I went to be a witness of confusion, which the Sup't promises to have removed by my return from Phil'a, when I purpose to visit the establishment again, for at present nothing more can be done than to see indigested piles of military stores.

April 23d

RESOLUTION

In Congress

Extending the privileges of free postage to the members of the Convention to assemble in Philadelphia on the second Monday in May next.

April 23d

FRANCIS PRESTON TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Montgomery county

* * * Since my arrival in this country many murders have been committed by the Indians, and very great appearance of a troublesome summer. The people of the Frontiers are much alarmed, and I think from their defenceless situation the immediate interposition of Government is absolutely necessary. On Saturday last there was a family murdered on Clinch, of 13 or 14, nor is it supposed they will be contented with this murder, but daily expect another stroke from them.

I am, with respect, your
mo. ob't, H'ble Ser't., &c., &c.

April 23d

GEORGE MASON TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH.

Dear Sir:

Gunston Hall

I have received your Favour by Colo. Wagener, with the sum of sixty pounds from the Treasury. I was unacquainted with the sum alloted for each Deputy, and was afraid of exceeding it. Considering the number of Deputies from the different States, the great Distance of some

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*This has no signature, and no reference made by which the author can be recognized.

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of them, and the probability that we may be obliged to wait many days before a full meeting can be obtained, we may, perhaps, be much longer from Home than I at first expected. I will, therefore, accept your very obliging offer of getting the Ball'c. of the sum of £100 (viz't. £40), invested for me in Philadelphia Bank notes, or good notes on Mr. Robert Morris, either of which, I presume, will be equal to cash in the city of Philadelphia, and you will do me the Favour to bring them up with you. Whatever remains more than our allowance of six Dollars per Day, shall be punctually returned to the Treasury. I think to set out time enough to spend a Day or two in Annapolis, in order to have a little conversation with some of the Maryland Deputys on the Subject of the Convention, and if the weather proves fine to cross the Bay there; otherwise to go thro' Baltimore. I expect to have the pleasure of seeing you at Gunston Hall on your way, and if you will do me the Favour to let me know at what time to expect you, I will regulate my movements accordingly.

1787. April 23d

I am, with the greatest Regard and Esteem, dear Sir,

Your most ob't Serv't, &c., &c.

AFFIDAVIT OF THOMAS DEBNAM, April 24th

Made before Thos. Tabb, Justice of the Peace, that he had seen a young negro man, about 18 years of age, under a good character, and very likely, sell for nineteen pounds seven shillings, and that he was considered worth one hundred pounds. He was sold at auction by the sheriff.

Gloucester county. Value of negro at public sale

AFFIDAVIT OF JOHN HARWOOD, April 24th

Keeper of the Jail of s'd County, made before Henry Southall and John Colgin magistrates, that Irby Phillips, a Prisoner, &c., was, by force and arms, rescued and taken thence by Persons unknown on the night of the 17th December, 1786.

Charles City county

E. LANGHAM TO COL. MERIWETHER. April 26th

In accordance with instruction with the Executive, he had advertised for and concluded contracts for supplying that Post with rations. The lowest rate proposed was 7d. p'r ration when no spirits, and 8½d. with spirits, to be begin May 1st. The salt Beef being spoil'd he was forced to begin the purchase of meat. It now rested with the Executive to decide as to the price of the rations offered, and give him orders accordingly. He had begun to get Timber ready for the arsenal, and expected to begin to raise stone on Monday morning. The timber is from a piece of timber land he had puchased to prevent Mr. Ross from asking an unreasonable

Point of Fork

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1787. April 26th — price for his. He encloses a platt of 9 Acres of Land as laid of to the best advantage for ye necessary buildings. It is not mathematically true, it not being in his power to procure Instruments in the neighborhood with which to make an accurate drawing. A public negro had run away and was supposed to be near Fort Chizell. He should secure him if possible. To sell him would be encouraging others to take his steps. He had received four loads of the French arms, and paid for carriage 45 shillings each. Has ordered up the other load.

April 27th

COM. JAS. BARRON TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

Richmond

The boats Liberty and Patriot

In reply to instructions sent him respecting the government of the State Boats. The surgeon was employed (with the approbation of the Executive) at £60 the year—the medicine to be furnished him by the Publick, which has not been the Case. A Surgeon employed occasionally would have cost a much larger Sum P'r year, at the rate they generally charge. The Pilots are employed at 4s. P'r Day. The Pilot's Time of the Liberty expires on the 3d of August, 1787—that of the Patriot on the 19th November, 1787. Those I had before were very indifferent ones, but would serve no longer for that Pay than 'till the Expiration of their Time, finding it more advantageous going in a Pilot Boat. I wish, if agreeable to your Excellency, that the Liberty's Journal may be returned on the 15th of the month in our Quarterly Returns, the Time of most of her Crew being out early in May. I think it absolutely necessary that the Liberty have some Repairs on her upper Works on her Return from the Head of the Bay before the reinlistment of three men, whose Times will be out at that Time. If your Excellency approves of the matter I can be providing the materials during her absence.

I have the Honor to be, Sir,
With great respect,
Your Excellency's most ob. Serv't, &c., &c.

April 27th

EVAN SHELBY TO BRIG. GEN'L RUSSELL.

Dear General:

Sullivan county, N. Carolina

Fear of Intestine war, &c

Nothing but Real necessity and the dreadfull Apprehension of an Intestine War Induces me to Correspond with You on that Head, the Leniant and Concilliating Measures of the General Assembly of No. Carolina being Treated with the utmost Contempt. The new State party are now Falling on the Civill Officers of the Government, with men in arms, and wresting their property from them Forceably and Contrary

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1787.
April 27th
Lawless conduct of the citizens of Franklin State

to Law. Their Assembly have Also set, Rattified and Confirm'd Sundery Acts, one of which, doubtless Virginia, must share in its Consequences. They Opened an Office for the Lands from French Broad River to Tinnise River, being the Lands Reserved to the Indians By the General Assembly of No. Carolina to them and their heirs for Ever. They are Forceably Takeing possession of the Same, and Setling in View of their Towns. This Cannot faile bringing On the Resentment of the Indians, and Involve us in A War with them, which Your Frontiers must share in its dreadfull Consequences. This I should think Highly Necessary to Be Made known to the Executive of Virginia. I am Now Under the Fullest Apprehension of Ingaging in an Intestine War, in Consequence of which have made Application to Government for Assistance. Those Unprovoked Insurrections Seem to have A Tendency, If possable, to dissolve even the Very Bands of the Federal Union. I am not Certain that I may not be under the disagreeable Necessity of makeing a Verry Speedey Application to You for Assistance, Should Not the Troops from our Own State Arrive in Time to Releive us. I therefore Hope you will, as a Member of the Union and a Lover of Your Country, Lend Every possable Aid and Assistance to Releive us, and hold Your Self in Readiness for the Same. Haveing the Fullest Confidence in Your Patriotism, Your Vallure and good Conduct, I Submit the Same to Your Mature Consideration.

I am, Sir, With Real Esteeme,
Your Most ob't and Most Humble Serv't, &c., &c.

MEMORIAL OF SIR JOHN PEYTON,

April 27th
Richmond
Sir John Peyton

Late sheriff of Gloucester County, for the years 1782 and '83 to the Executive, praying a suspension of the Judgement of the General Court against him as delinquent, until he can proceed, according to Law, against his Deputies, who had neglected or failed to Collect the Revenue under the Several Acts of the Gen'l Assembly, &c. Not a Shilling of the Public Money had ever passed through his hands. He was ready to make oath that he had never speculated in State securities, or used the money of the State in any way whatever. Unless protected from the effects of the Judgements aforesaid, he and his family would be reduced to abject poverty.

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1787. WM. CUSTIS TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

April 28th Middlesex Smuggling

Mr. Muse, the Naval Officer at Urbanna, who is acquainted with all the harbors in the District of Yeocomico, had informed him there was a great deal of illicit trade carried on at Indian Creek, Cone and Wicomico Rivers; that on this account Northumberlan Court House was the only place where the Searcher should reside to guard these and the port of Yeocomico. His brother, therefore, desires to be allowed to reside at that place, there being no other house at Yeocomico but the office of the Collector, and he being thereby better enabled to protect the public interests. Should this application be received favorably, an opportunity would be afforded by Abram, the Post to West Point, whence any instructions would reach him.

April 28th PROCLAMATION OF GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

Richmond Proclamation against ruffians, &c.

Offering a reward of fifty dollars each for the discovery and apprehension of the armed men who, on the 17th December, had rescued certain criminals from the Jail of Charles City Co., and calling upon all good citizens of the Commonwealth to assist, &c., remembering that such an outrage, if perpetrated with impunity, will eventually expose their property to the plunder of Ruffians, and sacrifice their happiness to the wicked views of the friends of disorder. He is so deeply impressed with the necessity of the most active exertions on such occasions, that as often as they shall happen the guilty shall be consigned to the utmost rigour allowed by law.

April 30th ANDREW DUNSCOMB, COMMISSIONER,

Commissioner's office

To Settle Claims of Virginia against the United States to the Executive. The officers under whose direction the statements had been made he finds have considered Arms, Ammunition, Waggons and Horses as a Specific Supply. Upon inspecting the Resolutions and Acts of Congress he finds several relating to arms, but no Requisitions for any stated number, nor price affixed. The journals silent also as regards wagons, &c. He, therefore, desires further instructions in view of these facts.

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COL. LEVI TODD TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH. 1787.

May it Please Your Excellency: 30th

I embrace an opportunity by the bearer of giving information that the Indians continue to Harrass the Inhabitants of this and the neighbouring Counties in this District. In the course of the last and the present month several murders have been committed in this county by them. A Son of Gen'l Scott, and a labouring man in Company with him, were a few days ago killed. The Settlements in Jefferson, East of the Bear-grass Waters, are wholly removed; the lower end of Mercer is also gone, which makes the frontier of this County extensive. For three months past I have had guards and Scouts out to protect those in the greatest Danger; never less than 50 men on duty at one Time, and frequently 100. The Inhabitants on the Frontier, with some little assistance given by the benevolent, by the way of subscriptions, have procured Supplies, as our Law does not invest the officers of Counties with authority (or prepare funds for them) to procure by any other means without Orders from your Excellency. Some Shawneys are at Limestone. The exchange of prisoners is going on, tho' they bring them in slowly, and a few at a Time. I beleive a door is open now to bring about a lasting peace with that nation. I think they might be prevailed upon to move near us, and depend upon us for the necessaries of Life. A few Volunteers are preparing to start the 25th Inst. to visit a party of Chickamoggies on Scioto, near or at the mouth of paint Creek. The Arms and Powder sent for the use of this District was left at Limestone by Order of a Board of Officers. I was directed to have it conveyed to Lexington. * *

Fayette county

Murders by the Indians

Mr. Jouitt informed the money given to him was nearly if not wholly expended. We complain much that the Legislative Body have tied the Hands of the Kentucky people in such a manner as to prevent our lifting Arms against those who daily invade us, at the Time they authorize Officers, when their County is invaded, to Order forth Militia, and have imposed fines on delinquents sufficient to compel obedience. We are not told how supplies may be procured. Impressments may be deemed illegal. No funds to purchase, and he who fears the fine that might be levied will take care to carry no provisions, knowing he must in consequence thereof be discharged.

Defenceless condition of Kentucky

The Return called for by Your Excellency I shall be able to procure a few days hence and send by the next conveyance, tho' I would observe that the Law passed in 1784, for regulating the Militia, was never considered in force in this District. Information was made us by our delegates that it was suspended by the Governor's orders. The officers never considered themselves as reduced by this Law and never ceased acting.

I have the Honor to be, with every
Sentiment of Esteem,
Your most obedient and very Humble Serv't &c., &c.

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1787. T. MERIWETHER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

April 30th I am this moment informed that the Executive have considered a delay in noticing their order of the —— instant as disrespectful to them. Altho' I am conscious that I never have offended them intentionally, yet I think it a duty I owe to myself, as well as the Board, to endeavour to remove even the appearance of disrespect.

Respect due the Executive

Makes explanation of his apparent neglect to reply to the Executive as occasioned by hurry and pressure of business. Mr. Blair had not sent the order for several days after its passage. He had replied to the verbal message sent from the Executive by Capt. Coleman, who unfortunately mistook its import, &c. Thus concludes: "I now, sir, claim the protection of the Board. I entreat their influence as an act of Justice in removing a malevolent report that has gone forth to the world, and is industriously circulated, that I have insulted the Board, such an offence being of magnitude, the report may operate to the injury of my character, which I value more than life.

I am, sir, with the sincerest Respect,
y'r Excellency's most obe't, h'ble Serv't, &c., &c.

April 30th P. CARRINGTON, PET. LYONS, WM. FLEMING, AND HENRY TAZEWELL, Judges of the Gen'l Court, enclose to the Executive a calendre of criminals convicted and sentenced at the April term of s'd Court, with recommendations to Executive clemency in certain cases, &c.

April 30th DAVID SHEPHERD, CO. LIEUTENANT, TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH.

Dear Sir:

Ohio county

Indian outrages in Monongahela

Three Days past I Received an Express from Fishing Creek that the Indians had Taken a Boy prisoner, and that several Guns was heard at the plantation of one Sims, upon which I ordered a party of the militia to go Down and see what was done. They returned in three Days and Informed me that the Indians had kiled Sims, his wife, and one of his children, and three more taken prisoners. They Likewise saw several Trails of Indians that had crossed the River with Horses, and the small tracts of a number of children and others, which we expect to be prisoners from Monongohale County. The number of Indians appeared to be about Forty. This Being the Third time they have Visited us this Spring, I thought it my Duty to Inform you that unless we Got some Relief the most of the County will be left Desolate, as we have neither arms nor ammunition to Defend ourselves; and for us to stand, in order to be a Convincing proof to the Continent of an Indian war, is a situation not very agreeable. I, therefore, hope such Relief may be Given as the pressent Circumstance will Require. I am, Sir, with Respect,

your Humbl. Servant, &c., &c.

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* J. AMBLER, TREASURER, 1787.

Enclosing to the Executive account of the Tobacco received at the Treasury in part of the Revenue Taxes of 1786, from March 23d to April 26th, inclusive: April 30th

COUNTIES.	Hdds.	CROP. Pounds nett.	Price.	Amount in Specie.	TRANSFER. Pounds nett.	Price.	Amount in Specie.
							£. s. d.
Chesterfield....	1,	1,007 @	26sh	13. 1. 9.	.....		.....
Caroline.....	6,	6,958	"	90. 9. —	456 @	26s.	5. 18. 6.
Fauquier.....	21,	21,954	"	285. 8. —	3,285	26s.	42. 14. 1.
Halifax.....	2,	2,054	"	26. 14. —	515	26"	6. 13. 10.
Prince George.	1,	993	28s.	13. 18. —	783	28"	10. 19. 2.
Ditto	2,	2,069	26"	26. 17. 11.	100	26"	1. 6. —
Lancaster	6,	6,444	24"	77. 6. 6.	.....		.....
Dinwiddie	2,	2,064	26"	26. 16. 6.	186	26"	2. 8. 4.
Surry	14,	14,095	24"	169. 2. 9.	.....		.....
Charlotte.....	3,	3,607	26"	46. 17. 9.	3,125	26s.	40. 12. 6
Ditto	...	.....		.....	940	28s.	13. 3. 2.
Albemarle.....	6,	6,421	28s.	89. 17. 10.	2,176	28"	30. 9. 2½.
Ditto	3,	3,110	26"	40. 8. 7	3,821	26s.	49. 13. 4.
Cumberland ...	3,	3,432	28"	47. 18. 11.	560	28s.	7. 16. 9.
Lunenburg	8,	8,660	28"	121. 4. 8.	1,776	26s.	23. 1. 8.
James City.....	...	.....		.....	55	24s.	— 13. —
Lunenburg	5.	5,492	26s.	71. 7. 10.	.....		.....
Louisa.....	4,	4,149	28s.	58. 1. 8.	2,060	28s.	28. 16. 9.
Ditto	12,	13,189	26s.	171. 9. 1.	3,364	26s.	43. 14. 7.
Caroline.....	23,	24,238	26s.	315. 1. 10.	2.293	28s.	32. 2. —
Ditto	...	.....		.....	6,948	26"	90. 6. 5.
Loudon.....	28,	28,801	26s.	374. 8. 2.	3,144	26"	40. 17. 5.
Culpepper	26,	27,146	26s.	352. 17. 10½.	3,028	26"	39. 7. 3.
Essex.....	26,	27,638	26 '	359. 5. 9.	5,190	26"	67. 9. 4.
Ditto	3,	3,026	26"	39. 6. 8.	1,118	24"	13. 8. 3.
Ditto	5,	5,280	24"	63. 7. 2.	.....		.....
Chesterfield ...	2,	2,052	28s.	28. 14. 6.	70	28"	19. 7.
Ditto ...	3,	3,431	26s.	44. 12. —	1,004	26s.	13. 1. 4.
Halifax.....	17,	19,108	26s.	248. 8. —	4,689	26s.	60. 19. 1.
Ditto	1,	1,048	28s.	14. 13. 5.	931	28"	13. — 8.
Ditto	3,	3,434	26s.	44. 12. 9.	1,713	26	22. 5. 3.
Fauquier.....	20,	20,271	26s.	263. 10. 3½.	3,584	26s.	46. 11. 9.
	256	271,171	— —	3,525. 19. 2.	56,914	—	748. 9. 2½.

Growth of Tobacco, price, &c., in specie in the several counties

Crop.....	£3,525. 19. 2.
Transfer.....	748. 9. 2½.
Applied to Tax on Slaves by the Sheriffs.....	£4,274. 8. 4½.

* This document is valuable, as showing the changes that have occurred since this date in the tobacco-growing region. Loudon and Fauquier Counties rivalling the Counties of Halifax and Caroline in quantity and quality of the Staple as shown by the price. It is to be observed also that James City paid in only fifty-five pounds.

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1787. RENEWED PETITIONS

Sheriffs' petitions for relief, &c. From many of the sheriffs of counties already recorded, praying for relief from judgements sued out by the Solicitor-General, Leighton Wood, J'n'r, Esq., accompanied by certificates, showing the efforts made by the officers of the Law to collect the dues from the people. The latter formed

People unable to pay taxes, &c combinations to defeat the coercive measures adopted by the sheriffs to collect delinquent taxes. Personal property of all kinds was seized by the latter and exposed to public sale for cash and on one month's time, but no purchaser's could be found, not a bid having been ever made.

Among the articles seized by the sheriffs are to be found the following: negroes, horses, beds, cows, funiture, guns, wheat, flax, carpenter's tools, &c.

The petition of Sir John Peyton, sheriff of Gloucester County, is particularly worthy of notice, as setting forth from such authority the condition of the people, and because he therein states the sacrifices made by himself in having adopted the cause of the Colonies, although his private interests would have been greatly advanced had he adhered to the side of the loyalists.

Spotsylvania county Negro slave condemned to death by hanging for the crime of Burglary, he having broken into the meat house of Robert Spilsbe Coleman, and stolen therefrom six pieces of Bacon, of the value of Three pounds ten shillings, &c. This slave was valued at one hundred and ten pounds current money. Recommended to the Governor and Council as a proper object of mercy.

May 2d THOMAS PLEASANTS, J'N'R, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

Petersburg Trade between Virginia and Maryland Acknowledging receipt of his appointment as one of the Commissioners to establish a basis of trade with Maryland and Virginia. Mr. Wm. Ronald and Mr. St. George Tucker, the other Commissioners, Regards the scheme of a separate arrangement or regulation with these two States as not feasible or expedient. Some system of a general nature should pervade the whole Confederation, the necessity of which, he thinks, will become apparent to the approaching Convention of the States. The consequence of such a plan would be to cement together their interests and bind them more closely together. He is willing, however, to concur in the recommendation of the Assembly, should it be considered productive of advantage.

May 2d CERTAIN PROPOSED ALTERATIONS IN THE PUBLIC JAIL

Richmond Referred to the consideration of Mr. Rich'd Adams, Rob't Mitchell, Dr. Foushee, Rob't Boyd, and Dr. Leiper.

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WM. GIBB ENCLOSES TO THE GOVERNOR 1787.

An impression of his seal of office, and hopes it will be approved. The late act of assembly requires the naval office to be removed to the Court House, and that all naval officers shall reside at the place where the office is kept. There are two ports of entry, one at Matompkin, on the Sea, and Onancock, on the bay. He lives at the latter place, and as fifty pounds a year, his salary, is not an object with him, unless he can be allowed to continue to live at Onancock, a healthy place, he will be forced to resign, &c. May 4th Onancock, Accomac

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L. WOOD, J'R., SOLICITOR, May 4th

Desires instructions from the Executive as to whether Interest shall be allowed in the claim of Mons. Beaumarchais, &c.

LEIGHTON WOOD, J'N'R., May 7th

Encloses to the Hon. Bev. Randolph, Lieut.-Governor, a Statement of the Foreign Creditors, &c., and the Dividend due to each.

H. CARY LEE, J'N'R, TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH. May 7th

Sir:

In conformity to the usage of the delegation, I had the honor to address the executive eight days past, since which period nothing interesting has occurred. New York

Public business of every sort progresses *lento pede*, owing to the irregular representation in Congress; or, in other words, to the radical inadequacy of the government to its objects. Inadequacy of the Government

We are now flattered with the prospect of nine states, which rare event we will not fail to use in bringing into view the meeting of commercial commissioners deputed by the States of Virginia and Maryland. The report of the death of the Count de Vergennes is just confirmed by letters from Mr. Jefferson. This celebrated statesman is succeeded by the Marquis of Montmoris, a particular friend and coadjutor of the departed premier, which precludes the probability of change in the political system of France.

I have the honor to be,
With due consideration and respect,
Your most ob't serv't.

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1787. HUDSON MUSE, NAVAL OFFICER, TO THE GOVERNOR,

May 8th Urbanna — Requesting instructions in regard to the duties of his office; particularly desiring to know whether certain articles (*sugar and snuff*), manufactured in other States are exempt from duty, &c.

May 8th — LEIGHTON WOOD, J'N'R, TO LIEUT.-GOV. BEV. RANDOLPH,

Solicitor's office — Giving reasons why he cannot have prepared for publication a statement of the Revenue and Expenditures—the great multiplicity of business in his office, with the want of proper assistance, being the cause thereof, &c.

May 8th — NEGRO SLAVES

Westmoreland county — Tried and condemned to death by hanging, for the crime of Burglary. Richard Henry Lee, the Presiding Justice of the Co. Court. The Court unanimously recommend the two negroes to the mercy of the Executive.

May 8th — SEARCHER, WM. GRAVES, TO THE EXECUTIVE,

Norfolk — Requesting instructions as to what he shall do in the cases of vessels coming in from sea and anchoring off Sewell's Point, when they can discharge their cargoes without his knowledge. Also desiring to know how low down Elizabeth River the Port of Norfolk extends, &c.

May 8th — T. MERIWETHER'S OFFICIAL DUTIES.

Richmond — All Orders from the Executive upon Military matters issue through his Office, and are recorded in it. Letters on military and other subjects originate there when particularly ordered by the Executive.

All vouchers for recruits raised during the late war, by County Lieutenants and Recruiting Officers, are lodged in this Office, and a certificate is granted to the County Lieutenant or Officer who lodges them, that gives him a credit with the Auditor in the settlement of his Accompt.

Commissions to Militia Officers are filled up and Registered. The Register notes the name and rank of the Officer, the date of his commission, and the period from whence he takes rank. Resignations of Field Officers are also registered.

Returns from the County Lieutenants of their Militias, Arms and Accoutrements, are digested into one General Return and Registered. The delinquencies of the Militia Officers are reported monthly to the Execu-

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tive. Few of the Officers who were reinstated, having (and am informed) qualified to their Commissions, are required by the Militia Law of the last Assembly, and the general deranged state of the Militia will occasion the issuing of a great number of Commissions during the current year. 1787. May 8th

All military claims to Land Warrants are investigated; certificates issue for the legal allowance, and the documents are filed in the Office. A Register is kept, expressive of the name of the claimant, his rank, the Corps he served in, the term of service, and date of the Certificate.

Certificates (duplicate) are issued to Pensioners, and are Registered. The Register contains the name of the Pensioner, his rank, the Corps in which he served, the County in which he resides, his age, the date of his Certificate, the period at which the pension commences, and the sum allowed.

The several Quarterly Returns of the Superintendent, at the Point of Fork, are examined with the vouchers attending them, and report made thereon to the Executive. A Regular correspondence is kept up with the Superintendent, agreeable to the order of the Executive. Whenever the Executive requires it, T. M. is to visit the Post, and muster the Guard and Artificers, and report thereof to the Board.

Claims of Officers and Soldiers, to depreciation of pay, are examined and certified to the Auditor. Accompts, heretofore settled, are scrutinized, and, when found fraudulent, the persons on whose behalf they are settled, are called upon to refund, agreeable to the Law in that case provided. When they fail to refund, they are reported to the Executive for prosecution.

Various extra business (I call it Extra, because I conceive it did not appertain to the War Office), has been referred to T. M., which he has always transacted with alacrity. At present an Accompt of this nature is before him, the liquidation of which will require several days. It is the acco't of the late manager of the Public Rope-walk.

SAMUEL J. CABELL, May 8th

County Lieutenant at this date, Comm. June, 1784. Amherst county

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GEORGE MUTER TO COL. BENJ. LOGAN, May 10th

Co. Lieut. of Lincoln, Ky., informing him that the Committee had declined writing to the Cherokees, because they had no legal authority, and because they are unknown to the Indians. But they think a Letter from Col. Logan will have weight with the Cheifs, because they know that he is the Commanding Officer in this District. Danville, Ky

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1787. REGISTER OF THE SCHOONER GRIZZIE,

May 11th Eighty tons burthen, and built at Gloucester, Va., 1786. Owned by Wills Cowper, &c.

May 12th L. WOOD, J'N'R,

Solicitor's office Informs the Lieut.-Governor he is about preparing notices to the Sheriffs in regard to the Taxes of 1786, and as the *Riders* will get off on teusday following, he desires an Order on the Auditor for fifty pounds to pay their traveling expenses.

May 12th BENJ. BLUNT, COUNTY LIEUTENANT,

Southampton county Makes return of the Militia of that County, viz: One Regiment of Militia, which has sixteen companies; also officers for a light company. Requests the Executive to furnish copies of Baron Steuben's instructions, as he knows of but two copies in the County.

May 13th CASE OF A SLAVE, ROGER,

Pittsylvania county Tried for attempting to poison certain persons, and condemned to suffer death by hanging. Petition to the Executive for a repreive, and counter petition setting forth the bad character of the Slave. He had once been punished by the Co. Court for criminal offences, in 1782, by being burnt in the hand, and required to stand in the Pilory one quarter of an hour with both Ears nailed to the Same, and then one Ear let loose. After which, taken down and conveyed to the common whipping post, and then received Thirty-nine Lashes on his bare back, well laid on, &c. This negro had frequently been tried for the crime of poisoning, in Dinwiddie Co., during the preceding twenty years; and it was generally believed by respectable persons that he had poisoned 18 or 20 slaves belonging to one person, including some of his own children.

May 16th ALEXANDER S. BULLITT, CO. LIEUTENANT, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

Jefferson county, Kentucky The distressed situation of this Part of the State, which has been gradually increasing for three years past, is now arrived to such a Point as to make farther Temporizing of any kind with the Indians Inevitable Destruction. More than half the County is already Depopulated. Num-

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bers have been massacred. As many as four killed, two missing, and one Dangerously wounded, the last week, besides a number of Horses taken off. Those people who have been unable to move out of the county are Collected in Forts, so that it is entirely out of their Power to Raise any Thing for the support of their families. These are Facts which I think it my Duty to make your Excellency Acquainted with, and the more so, as I am informed that Gen'l Butler, the Indian Agent for Congress, has told you in the *Gazette* that most of the Tribes are Pacifically Inclined. Whilst I contradict this Publication, permit me to Descend A little to Particulars with your Excellency. Bartlett Searcy, a man who has spent a great part of his time with the Shawanese, was out with a party a few days ago, and fired upon by a Party of Indians, whom he heard distinctly speak to and Encourage each other in the Shawanese Tongue. The Day after he was Attacked by a second Party, consisting of about Thirty, who spoke a Language he did not understand. In this skirmish he lost four men—two killed, two taken, and one wounded. Three only got in safe—his Party (having been separated the day before) consisting at that time only of Eight. This is a Demonstration to your Excellency that at least two Tribes are hostile; but the Fact is, that all the Indians liveing on the Wabash are united with the Shawanese in an Active Offensive war against the country, and that the County of Jefferson, which, from the situation, is most exposed, must be Entirely Destroyed, without the most prompt and Decided Exertions on the Part of Government. This state of affairs, Distressing as it may be, is rendered still more so from a want of unanimity among ourselves; for at the moment I am writing, when we have the undeniable Testimony that the Shawanese are united with the Wabash Indians in most of the mischief done in this Quarter, a kind of Mock Treaty is holding with them at Limestone for Exchange of Prisoners, makeing Peace, &c., &c., under the auspices of Colo. Logan, and some others, by what authority I suppose they Best know. What Impression the Irregularity of this proceeding may have upon the minds of the more thinking Part of the Community, I submitt to your Excellency. When they see one or more Individuals take upon themselves with Impunity to Enter into Treaty with a Hostile nation, will they not conclude that we have no Government at all, and that the Salvation of the District Depends upon Erecting one as soon as possible? That it may not have this tendency is the sincere wish of him who has the Honour to be, with the greatest Respect,

1787. May 16th

Your Excellency's most Obedient humble Servant.

N. B.—As there is no money in my hands arising from militia fines, the Bearer of this must depend upon Your Excellency for his wages, which the Act of Assembly directs to be paid out of the Contingent Fund. A Dollar a Day until he returns, with a reasonable allowance for expences, is, I think, little enough for passing the Wilderness twice.

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1787. *JOHN JOUITT TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH, BY PEYTON SHORT, ESQ'R.

Sir:

May 17th Kentucky, Mercer county — On the Twenty-sixth day of March I arriv'd at Limestone with the Publick stores, on my way to the mouth of Dick's River, whar I was order'd, but found at Limestone orders from a Council to Deposite all the Publick Property at that Place. I did sow, but had the first plan been carried into Execution it would have been much better for this Country, &c. * * * * * * * * I have the Honour to stand Elected to serve in the Assembly this year. * * * * We are like to have a very Troublesome summer. Gen'l Scott lost his second son, murdered by the Indians as he was fishing, and one man more, just, by the Gen'l's House. I hope you will excuse interlining. I have not one more inch of paper.

I have the Honour to be, &c., &c.

May 17th COL. BENJ. LOGAN TO GOV. RANDOLPH, BY COLO. JAMES KNOX.

May it Please your Excellency:

Kentucky District, Lincoln county — You will find by the inclosed Letter and Resolves the sence of the Inhabetents of Kentuckey Relative to the Cherokee Indiens. I have wrote to that nation agreeable to said Resolves, and would be thankfull to hear your sentements on that ocation. Part of the Checkomagies are now living on a Branch of Sioto, over the Ohio, and is continualy doing Damage on our Frontiers, as we are informed by the Shawonies, who are now at Limestone, in Burbone County. The have Exchanged for ten of there Prisoners, and hath wrote me the will Exchange for the whole. Soon after this date the mention the Principle Cheiff will come in at the next Exchange, and wishes I would meet them there. Mr. Harry Innes and my self has concluded to meet them, and have give them that notice. I am at a lose to know there intention; it may be sincere, or only to keep up a correspondence till the get there People that we have Prisoners. I would have seen the Indiens before now, but, by accident, I have, for some time, been Lame, and I live one hundred miles from Limestone. Part of the Shawnies may be doing damage while the others are amongst us in a friendly maner. This matter is desputed among the People. I think it uncertain. There is no doubt but the Western Indiens is at war. There has so many different accounts come from the Opost, and the repeated Injuries and murders the are almost every day guilty of in some part of the Destrict, is too tedious and out of my Power to give a perticeler ac-

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* Doubtless the same Capt. J. Jouitt who, six years before this date, by his activity and vigilance, saved Mr. Jefferson and the Legislature at Charlottesville from Tarleton's Dragoons.

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count of. It appears to me nothing will put a stop to the western Indiens but carrying a Body of troops into there country. For my own part I have been almost silent in regard of the Indiens for some time, Rather giving way to some Gentlemen who would wish to be Populer, but I find as well as they that it is out of there power to do a great deal. It is now evident that some person ought to exert themselves. I intend to use my influence against the Western Indiens, and have hopes to succeed. At Defferent times I have requested the County Lieutenents to meet, agreeable to your instructions, to conclude on a place to deposite the Arms and Ammunition Allotted for our Country, but through misfortune or Indelence it hath fell through. I have made the third apointment, and I beleave will get the Business accomplished, as I understand the most of the men ordered on duty will meet to-morrow, according to apointment, in Order to bring the Lead from the Block House. The Desorders in Defferent Elections for the General Assembly in this Destrict is Alarming, and I make no Doubpt but you will be informed of the Perticeler Circumstances by many. 1787. May 17th

I am Your Excellency's

most obed't and Humble Serv't.

COL. BENJ. LOGAN TO COLO. A. CAMPBELL (EXTRACT). May 18th

I am obliged to you for your intelligence concerning the Cherokees. I would only inform you it was by pure accident it fell on the Old Town Indiens, for it is impossible to distinguish them from the Chickomagies, but their misfortune was not altogether unmerited, as they had two Horses in their possession, taken but a short time before from our people, and two Indians of the same party was killed some short time before on our frontiers actually attempting to steal Horses. Also the whole party made their Hunt in less than 40 miles of the place where our unfortunate people were murdered in the wilderness last October. I have had information from different captives, which can be depended on, that the Chickomagies took ten prisoners to the Shawanese Country and there put them to death. St. Asaph

Signed, BEN. LOGAN.

DANVILLE, May 19th, 1787.

Our country is much infested by the savages, and I do expect that several Expeditions will be carried on this summer to different parts. I saw your letter to Colo. Ben. Logan about the excursion in February last from this country. It was not intended against the upper Cherokees, but very deservedly fell upon them, for they had a valuable mare of mine and a Horse of a Mr. Blaine's, which were retaken.

Signed, HARRY INNES.

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1787. ALEX. BARNETT TO GOV. EDMUND RANDOLPH.

May 19th
Russell county

No invasion from the savages since that of the 8th March last, an acount of which had already been given. Tracks of suspicious persons have been noticed in many parts of the county, but they may be merely horse theives. Should they be Indians, it is evidence of their intention to inflict a serious blow upon their frontier. The new militia Law is utterly useless, in as much as it does nothing but authorize scouting parties, which become cautionary signals to the enemy. A visit from the Indians may be expected about the middle of September, it having, heretofore, been their habit to make attacks about the tenth of March and of the former month. The last information is that John Inglishe's family, killed in Cassel's woods, on Clinch, in March last, were scalped, and that their sculps were carried into one of the Towns on Highwascy. The greatest damages sustained are generally from the Cherokees. The people call for scouts, only two to go together, as the country being mountainous a greater number leads to discovery. He thinks it will be necessary to send an expedition into the Cherokee country before any security can be found against a cruel and active enemy. On this account he earnestly hopes his Excellency will send out such instructions as will enable them to defend themselves against the merciless and Inhumaine Cruelty of a Barberous enemy.

May 20th

ARTHUR LEE TO THE GOVERNOR OF VA.

Dear Sir:

New York

The situation of Virginia with regard to the portion of the Domestic debt of the Union gives me much uneasiness. While some States have collected upon very easy terms the whole of their quota, and others are secretly effecting the same object, Virginia, I apprehend, will delay her exertions till the business cannot be accomplished but with infinite difficulty, and at double or treble expence.

The large quantities of public securities w'ch are locked up in the Treasuries of several states; the purchases continually making by other states, and by companies formed for speculating in Western Lands; the arrangements making by the treasury-board for calling in some millions, and the sources of issuing them being greatly diminished, must very materially reduce the quantity at market, give more hope of their redemption, and consequently increase their price. If, added to this, the proceedings of the present Convention should impress the public with an expectation of a firmer federal government, and that Congress will be furnished with the means of more effectually paying the interest of the debt, in all human probability the price of public securities will then rise rapidly and greatly. In that case the State will not be able to purchase her quota but on these increased terms; or if she should lay a tax payable in public securities her citizens will be obliged to bear the burthen by purchasing from those

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of other States on the same onerous terms. For our fellow-citizens do not appear to be possessed but of a very small portion of these securities. 1787. May 20th

I communicate, Sir, these things to you, that if the Executive should have it in their power to apply any monies to the purchase of public securities for the State, they may judge of the propriety of doing it speedily and secretly. If it must be deferred till the next General Assembly, the loss of the State will be inevitable.

I have the honor to be,
With very great esteem,
Y'r Excellency's most obed't Serv't.

J. DIXON, PUBLIC PRINTER, TO THE GOVERNOR. May 21st

Sir:

I will have 1500 Copies of the Act to repeal the Act for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for other purposes, printed immediately and distributed as your honorable board have directed. The sheet which contained that Act was composed in Mr. Davis' office, examined by Mr. Beckley, and worked off at our Press. From this information the Executive will know how to determine. Richmond

I am, most respectfully, Sir,
Your most obed't Serv't.

ALEX. HENDERSON TO THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, May 22d

Informing him of the arrival at Quantico the day before, the ship Sally, from Bordeaux, bringing sixty odd chests of arms for the State, &c., &c. Dumfries

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EDMUND RANDOLPH TO LIEUT.-GOV. BEV. RANDOLPH. May 24th

Sir:

I beg leave to enclose a letter received yesterday from Dr. Lee concerning the public securities. I do not undertake to decide on the propriety of pursuing or rejecting the advice, but only submit its contents to your deliberation. Philadelphia

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect
towards yourself and the rest of the members of the Board,
Yr. mo. ob't serv't.

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1787. WM. GIBB TO THE GOVERNOR,

May 24th Accomack Naval office — Recommending the appointment of another Searcher for that district, in view of the facility with which small vessels, by reason of the extent of coast and the number of small creeks, avoid the scrutiny of the present officer and get their cargoes in.

May 24th DAVID SHEPHERD, COUNTY LIEUTENANT, TO THE GOV. OF VA.

Sir:

Ohio county — Since my last to your Excellency, the Indians have killed and taken a family on Wheeling; they killed three, and have taken two, which were all, except a woman, that escaped much wounded. We are under great apprehensions of their Doing more mischeif. The Surveyors are very Loth to go to their Different Ranges. There is great sign of their crossing the Ohio. In consequence of that I have ordered out a small party of Militia to be stationed where the greatest Danger appears; but our County being so situated that the whole may Be Call'd a frontier, the length being about seventy miles, and the greatest part in length not being more than six miles in Breadth, therefore it appears that it is necessary for every man to guard his own family, we being to remote from any other County of our State that we cannot call on them for Assistance without your Excellency's special orders. As for Arms and Ammunition we are illy provided. Scarce one man in five has a gun. There is not one hundred weight of powder in the County. I have sent to Different parts, but none to be had. The victualling of the Militia is an object to be considered, as the people In general have become Credulous, and Impressing is Very Disagreeable, &c.

May 25th JOHN WOODS, INDIAN INTERPRETER,

In behalf of himself, a Cheif of the Choctaw Indians, his Lady and a Chickasaw, on their way to the Congress of the United States, praying for aid from the Governor of Virginia, to enable them to continue their journey, &c., &c.

May 27th EDMUND RANDOLPH TO HON. BEV. RANDOLPH, LIEUT.-GOV. OF VA.

Sir:

Philadelphia — The inclosed despatches from Mr. Short came to hand last night. As they only contain a repetition of the stile in which the Marquis' bust was inaugurated, I should not have forwarded them by the mail had it not been for the facility of postage.

I beg leave also to inclose a letter from Mr. Bondfield to Gen'l Washington, who sent it to me this morning. I shall write to Mr. Alexander

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Henderson, of Dumfries, to attend to the Arms until you can forward the proper instructions. 1787. May 27th

Seven States met on friday, appointed a committee to prepare rules, and adjourned 'till Monday. In four or five days we shall probably have every State represented, except Rhode Island, which has peremptorily refused to appoint deputies, and new Hampshire, of which we can hear nothing certain but her friendly temper towards the Union. I aught, however, to add, that a respectable minority in R. Island are solicitous that their State should participate in the Convention.

I have the honor, Sir, to be with great respect,

To my worthy associates in the Executive,

Y'r mo. ob. Serv't, &c., &c.

A SURVEY May 27th

Held in the State Boat, Liberty, with the view of repairing her, and the estimated cost thereof made at Sixty-five Pounds. Hampton, Va

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COL. BENJ. WILSON May 28th

Informs the Governor that the Co. Court has appointed Commissioners, devided the County into Districts, and the Comm'rs have proceeded to take in the taxable property, adds: "The Lands in Harrison has never yet been leagally Assess'd. There is no Books for their Directions, and they are at a looss to conduct themselves." Harrison county

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COLO. BENJ. WILSON TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH. May 28th

Sir:

About the middle of Aprile the Indians made an Incursion in this County and Took away Eight horses, and on the eighth of this month killed and scalped one man and took away nine horses, which Incursion has put the Inhabitants in much fear, as they lay Exposed in a Direct line and Opesite the Enemy, and no Endeavors in their view made, Either by Congress or this State, to effect a peace with them. Harrison county

I have Ordered out Six Spies on the Fronteir, although, in my opinion, not less than Eight would be a number sufficiente. I can Discover no warrante in the Militia law for Spies or for their payments, and sure I am, if Spies is to be paid with Audited Certificate, it will be difficult to get Suitable men to Engage in that Business, and on good men alone Depends the Safety of the householders and provision of their familys. * * * * * * In the absence of the County Lieutenant and my self, the Major apply'd to the Lieuten't of Hampshire for aid, and beleives 25 of his malitia will be sent to the Relief of Harrison, &c., &c.

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1787. REGISTER OF THE SHIP QUEEN OF FRANCE,

May 29th Burthen two hundred and fifty Tons. Wm. Cowper, owner, built in 1787, at Smithfield, in the County of Isle of Wyght.

May 29th FINES OF FROM FIVE TO TEN POUNDS,

Imposed upon individuals failing to respond or appear in Court upon the summons of the Sheriffs of the Counties. either as parties to suits or witness, &c., &c.

May 31st RECEIPT OF A LETTER

From Mons. Gelin, at Coblentz, on the Rhine, to the Governor of Virginia, making proposals to establish an interchange of commerce between Virginia and the Province of Treves, based upon the value of Tobacco, of £1. 2s. 3d. qualities, and at certain relative prices. (In French.)

May 31st SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE LIEUTENANT-GOV. OF VIRG'A,

Richmond Enclosing lists of sales of Tobacco, with proper vouchers, &c., which had been damaged in Byrd's warehouse, destroyed by fire on January 8th, 1787, and for which the State was thereby made liable to the owners of said tobacco. Sam'l Coleman had been appointed to sell the same and to pay persons for their services in rescuing from destruction the tobacco stored in the warehouse.

PERSONS FINED

May court, Rockbridge county For refusal to give into the sheriff a list of their personal and real estate to be taxed, &c.

June 2d CAPT. JAMES BARRON, COMMANDER OF THE STATE BOATS,

Having died on or about the 15th of May, 1787, the Executive Council advertize that the place thereby vacated will be filled by appointment, to be made on the first Monday in June. Whereupon numerous applications are made for the office by those who had served in the naval force of the State during the late war. Among them were Capt. Thos. Williams, Capt. Wm. Lewis, of Fredericksburg, Capt. George Chamberlayne, Capt. Rich'd Taylor, Capt. Francis Bright, Capt. Willis Wilson, Capt. Thomas Lilly, Capt. Richard Barron, brother of the deceased, and Capt. John Sinclair. Testimonials recommending several of the above are given, by which it appears that Capt. Bright distinguished himself in the naval service during the war. James Innes, who had himself been a captain in the

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navy, certifies to his services, his skill as a seaman, and his thorough knowledge of the geography and navigation of the Chesapeake, &c., having been born upon its waters. Capt. Richard Barron seemed particularly entitled to the office, from his having once before failed to get it by not having applied in time, hence he now makes application before his brother's death, but upon the assurance of the medical men that he cannot possibly survive many days. Col. Josiah Parker recommends Capt. John Sinclair, formerly a Capt. in the State navy, and among the first who took prizes from our adversaries, who was also successful by his Privateer, and received the particular confidence of the Marquis de la Fayette, and was charged with dispatches with him to the French Fleet at Rhode Island on a particular occasion, well known to all those deeply interested in the late war. 1787. June 2d

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LEIGHTON WOOD, J'R., June 4th

Encloses to the Lieut.-Governor his claim for extra services rendered the State in settling various important claims and in providing proper forms for the use of naval officers. Richmond

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JOHN HUDSON WRITES TO HON. BEV. RANDOLPH, LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, June 6th

Drawing his attention to the defenceless State of that part of the Country; not a Militia Officer having qualified under the last Act of the Legislature. The people of the Town, however, desire to establish a Company. Portsmouth, Va

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EDMUND RANDOLPH TO LIEUTENANT-GOV. BEV. RANDOLPH. June 6th

Sir:

The prospect of a very long sojournment here has determined me to bring up my family. They will want about thirty pounds for the expense of travelling. The Executive will therefore oblige me by directing a warrant in my favor, to be delivered to Mrs. R. for that amount. My account stands thus: Philadelphia

1787.	Dr.	With the Comm'lth.
May 2d—To cash received.....	£100. 00.	
	57. 12.	
	£ 42. 8.	now in my hands.

1787.	Cr.
June 6—By attending from the 6th of May to this day (both inclusive), 32 days, at 6 dols. per day, which amount to 192 d's, and are equal to.....	£57. 12s.

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1787. June 6th

Twenty-three or four days more will overrun this sum, and will have elapsed before my family can arrive, so that I trust there will be no difficulty in the advance.

Mr. Wythe has left 50£ of his money to be distributed among such of his colleagues as should require it. * * * * *

We have every reason to expect harmony in the convention, altho' the currents of opinion are various. But no man can yet divine in what form our efforts against the American crisis will appear to the public eye. It will not be settled in its principles for perhaps some weeks hence.

I am, Sir, with great respect,

Y'r mo. ob. Serv't, &c., &c.

June 8th

HENRY LEE, J'N'R, TO HON. BEV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

New York

I have to ask pardon for my omission in writing last week, and now beg leave to reply to your letters of the 19th and 28th of May. The first relates to the detention of the indents for '86 and '87. We feel very much distressed to know that our Country is groaning under injurys which we have no opportunity to attempt to releive her from, the remedy being solely in Congress, and that body being for the present out of Session. The board of Treasury are merely executive, and dare not exercise the power of altering resolutions committed to their conduct.

The scheme of indents originated for the purpose of enabling the public to discharge the interest of the domestic debt, and is marked by three conditions which seem clearly to explain the natural operation and effect of this branch of the executive system, viz.: That indents shall be issued only to such State or States as may have passed the requisition providing for its payment adequate funds—that the payment of indents shall be in proportion to the payment of Specie, and that they shall be receivable only in a discharge of the requisition of the year to which they were allotted.

From the first condition it follows that indents cannot be issued to any State whose compliance with the requisition is not substantial and effective. If then the Act of the Legislature of Virginia, passed in Her last Session is only a compliance in name, the board of treasury are bound to withhold the indents for the present year.

If, on the contrary, the compliance is effective, the board has criminally neglected their duty and deeply injured the State. the Act of the Assembly has been laid before Congress, and will be the subject of their deliberation as soon as they reässemble. Certain it is that our Country has been grossly injured, and that the injury is attributable either to the Legislature or to the board of treasury.

The detention of the indents for the year '86, is authorized by the last of the three recited conditions for the receipt of indents issued on the requisitions of the 27th Sept., '85, is only admissible in payment of the taxes of that year and in the specified ballances stated in the resolve of

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12th Oct., of the same year, it being a fundamental principle of the revenue system that distinct appropriations shall be established for the redemption of indents issued on distinct requisitions. 1787. June 8th

The letter of the 28th respects the pay of the third commissioner, appointed in conformity to the resolve of Congress for adjusting the claims of Virginia against the union for moneys expended and services performed in the conquest and protection of the western country. We communicated the purport of this lett'r to the board of treasury, who, in compliance with our wishes, have been pleased to issue their order for two hundred dollars in favor of the commission, determining to unite with the State in advances of money to this officer, untill the design of Congress shall be had on the subject.

This we trust will prevent any interruption in the concluding a business which has already too long been neglected.

I have the honor to be, sir,

with great respect and regard your most ob't.

REGISTER OF THE BRIGG ANNA MARIA, June 11th

Virginia vessel, built at Gloucester, and of one hundred and Twenty Tons burthen.

COLO. WALTER CROCKETT TO THE GOVERNOR, BY J. ADDAIR. June 11th

Sir:

The Indians still continue their Hostilitys against the frontiers of Montgomery County, and have killed five persons in the course of the Spring, to-wit: two men and three women, and several has been seen in different parts on the frontiers, which has caused the greatest consternation amongst the Inhabitants, that beleives themselves in dangers Imaginable. Several Familys have moved away, others is gathered to different stations, to defend themselves in the best manner they can untill they see what the event will turn to. If they continue the war, it is to be feared that great part of this County will move away before the summer is out. I can't see by the Invasion law how the men can be kept out without the enemy would stay on the frontier, but that being not the case, for when they have killed a few they make their Escape home and other small parties comes out, which takes the people at surprise when they think there is the least danger, and by that means the people never knows when they are safe. Montgomery county

I am creditably informed by men from Cantuckey that a number of Indian cheifs of the Shawanese nation came to Dansville with white prisoners and pretends to make a peace, and exchange their prisoners for those that Colo. Logan took last fall. The Indians say that fifty of their warriors and

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1787. June 11th

eight Chickemogo Indians revolted from the rest of the nation and was gone against the Inhabitants of Clynch and Bluestone, which appears to be probable, as they have killed the above number of persons in this County.

There has been two Captains, with a proper number of officers, ordered out, and forty men rank and file to each. The men were taken by divisions from the interior parts of the County, and continued on duty 20 days and one month. One company went down New River to the lower Settlements and to Bluestone in this County. The other to Clynch, to guard the Inhabitants untill they got their Spring crops put in. Therefore I looked upon it as my duty to inform your Excellency thereof, that you might send to me such orders as you think proper, as also some directions about provisions in case of emergency.

I have the Honour to be, Sir,
with great respect, y'r mo. ob't Ser't.

June 12th

WILLIAM GRAYSON, DELEGATE FROM VA., TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

New York

Your letter of the 2d Instant, inclosing the communications from Colo. Shelby, has been received and shall be laid before Congress as soon as a sufficient number of States shall have assembled, so as to enable them to proceed to public business. When this will be the case is altogether uncertain, many of the members of Congress are now attending at ye Convention, and some of the States have not sent delegates either to the one or the other. It is much to be lamented that the desire of dismembering States prevails in so great a degree among the citizens of the Union. If a doctrine of this sort is allowed, it will go directly to the destruction of all government, for if ye right exists in the first instance, it may be carried so far as to reduce a State to the size of a County or a parish.

It was a great misfortune that the principle was not attacked in ye instance of Vermont. They might have been crushed in the beginning, but they have been permitted in quietness to grow powerful and to furnish a fatal example to the Union.

There can be no doubt but the United States are bound to guaranty the limits of every State in the confederation. Their not interfering in the case alluded to has subjected them to great inconveniences already. A very considerable body of people, residents of Vermont, pay no taxes towards the support of the federal government, neither are they, in fact, a part of ye Union. They also furnish a comfortable asylum to all those who are disposed to fly from taxation in the others

With respect to the State of N. Carolina, it must be acknowledged they have acted with the greatest imprudence. After having given up the country to the United States and the government to the people, they ought not afterwards, on ye reassumption, to have expected a voluntary

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obedience. I shall transmit a copy of your letter with the communications to our delegates in the Convention, although I believe they are already sufficiently impressed with the propriety of defining in the most accurate manner thelimits of the State, as well as of providing an adequate remedy for the suppression of evils of this sort. 1787. June 12th

By letters from Mr. Syms, in Kentucki, late a member of Congress for ye State of New Jersey, we are informed that the people at the Kaskaskies and Post Vincent, are in the most unsettled situation. They complain, and in my opinion with great justice, that Congress, notwithstanding their frequent applications, has, ever since the cession of Virginia, suffered them to remain in a state of nature, with't law, government, or protection, and talk very strongly of becoming Spanish subjects.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect,
y'r most obed't Serv't.

COL. T. MERIWETHER TO THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, June 12th

Informing him of Colo. Newton's desire to mount four six-pounders at Norfolk instead of the two eighteen-pounders he was allowed to mount in March last; also his request for as much damaged powder from the Public Magazine as will be sufficient to test the guns, &c.

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, BEV. RANDOLPH, ESQ., IN COUNCIL, June 12th

The Governor being absent, pardons a negro slave condemned to death by hanging for the crime of Burglary, and stealing goods to the amount of Five Pounds in money.

REGISTER OF THE SCHOONER JANE AND MARY, June 15th

Of Hanover Town, in Virginia, of seventy-five tons burthen, built at Kingston, in Gloucester, in 1786, &c.

COLO. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. RANDOLPH OF VA. June 18th

Sir:

I have the pleasure to inform your Excellency that the ammunition that was lodged at the Block-house is safe arrived in Kentucky. Various reports were spread that 200 Indians from the Creek and lower Cherokee Towns would attack the Guard when passing with the Lead through the Wilderness. Some Creeks actually set out, but the influence of the upper Cherokees prevented the march of any of their nation. Your Excellency's letter to these People turned out to be a fortunate measure, for Washington county

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1787. June 18th only 50 men composed the Guard that escorted the stores through the Wilderness.

I enclose extracts of letters from Mr. Innes and Colo. Benjamin Logan on the subject of the attack last February on a party of the upper Cherokees. A recommendation of Militia Officers accompany these. The three Gentlemen, first mentioned in the Order, are valuable Officers, and has formerly served as Captains, but unluckily did not comply with the late Act to qualify in time. * * * I hear Doctor White, the Superintendant, has lately been extremely ill-treated in the Creek Towns. I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most ob'd't Serv'nt.

June 20th J. PARKER TO LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

Norfolk Naval office Sending returns of entries and clearances at that Port. The business of his Office increasing so rappidly that his Clerks scarcely have time to take their meals, consequently he finds it impossible to keep up the regular reports of his monthly transactions in the manne required by law. His Clerks, being so pressed for time, are frequently visited with insult by those demanding entries and clearances of their vessels or cargoes. On this account two of his best Officers, Mr. Bedinger and Mr. Gray, have decided to resign their positions. Indeed he, himself, had determined to give up the portion he occupies; but trusting that the next Legislature will afford him some aid, and being desirous to help an unfortunate friend (Mr. James Hunter, who has promised to assist him), he declines, for the present, to send up his resignation. Capt. Maxwell renders essential service in undertaking to receive and deliver goods on deposite for the storage, the State having no public Warehouse for this purpose. The freight on the Arms received had been paid, and they will be delivered to the Officer of the State Boats on application. He is very much annoyed by persons at a distance writing, and consuming postage by demands for goods deposited for security of duties due on them; but these applications are not regarded.

June 21st EDMUND RANDOLPH TO LIEUT.-GOV. BEV. RANDOLPH,

Philadelphia Enclosing a complaint made by the consignee of a Dutch vessel, that the authorities of Virginia were demanding the extra tonnage imposed upon vessels alone belonging to nations with whom no Treaty of Commerce exists, whereas this ship was under the Flag of the United Netherlands, with whom such a Treaty had been made, &c. He begs the matter be at once attended to by the Executive, and adds: "Mr. Wythe, before he left us, requested that the Executive might, if they thought proper, appoint a successor to him. I informed him that I doubted whether, at this advanced stage of the business, they would be so inclined—especially, too, as there was a hope of his return; but that I would mention the affair to you."

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ALEX. HENDERSON 1787.

Informs the Lieut.-Governor that Capt. —— has taken only forty chests of the arms on his vessel; twenty-three yet remain, &c. June 21st Dumfries

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J. AMBLER, TREASURER, June 22d

Reports the amount of Continental facilities remaining in the Treasurer on the 18th June, 1787, viz.:

£83,690. 2. 11¾.

Value of Tobacco rec'd for Revenue Taxes of 1786.....£13,936. 8. 5.
Value of Transfer tobacco nett, paid in on acc't of tax on Slaves.....£16,934. 19. 8.

The price of this tobacco p'r cwt. averaged 24 shillings sterling or about six dollars fifty cents, gold.

JOHN PIERCE, ESQ'R, June 25th

Encloses to the Executive a copy of list of goods furnished the officers and troops of Virginia in the Illinois, embracing a large assortment and variety, &c., amounting in the aggregate to Dolls. 52,495.4½, &c. Richmond

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BOND OF EDWARD JACKSON June 25th

As Surveyor of Randolph County, commissioned such by the Governor of Virginia in the penalty of Two thousand Pounds lawfull money, &c.

WM. GRAYSON, DELEGATE, TO LIEUT.-GOV. RANDOLPH. June 25th

Sir:

I have the honor of acknowledging your letter of June 6th, with the extracts of letters from the district of Kentucki and the proceedings of the Executive thereon, and I entirely concur with you on the propriety of the State's calling upon Congress either to exert the federal force in defence of her frontiers, or to enable her, at ye expence of ye Union, to defend her citizens in such manner as may be most likely to ensure success. The misfortune is that there is no Congress at present to whom the application can be made, and if there was, I doubt much whether there would be a disposition in that body to incur any great expence for the security of an individual State. There are so many States who are protected (by their situation) from the depredations of the Indians, that if we New York

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1787. June 25th judge from their conduct, on Governor Henry's application last year, efficient measures in this respect are hardly to be expected. On that occasion, after every exertion of the delegation, only two companies were produced, and these were directed by the Secretary at War to act in the defensive; and as to the expenditures made by the State, I doubt whether ever a shilling will be allowed. I shall be happy, however, to find myself mistaken in my conjectures.

I have the honor to be
with the highest respect,
Y'r most obed't serv't.

June 26th

BOND OF WM. GIBB,

Accomac As naval Officer (Collector of Customs, &c.) of that District, in the penalty of Five thousand Pounds, current money of Va.

June 26th

CATO MOORE,

*Mecklenburg, Va Having been appointed Searcher for that place, desires to know what the salary is to be. The appointment of such an officer has given great offence to the people, who threaten to resist the law, &c. The number of Ferries on the Potomac will make it necessary to appoint other Searchers. He therefore recommends that one be located at Martinsburg.

June 26th

E. LANGHAM TO THOS. MERIWETHER,

Point of Fork In regard to surveying the nine acres of land belonging to David Ross. He had sent several times to the County Surveyor, but had not succeeded in getting him. When Col. Merriwether arrived at Point of Fork he had just left for Frederick Co. to engage Stone masons to put up the public buildings. Upon receiving hearsay from Mr. McDonald he sent directions to him as to how the Land should be laid off, with instructions to get the Surveyor there at once. This was done, but while that officer was going on with with the survey Mr. Ross appeared at the Point and demanded his authority for so doing, whereupon the survey was suspended until the matter could be represented to the Executive. A jury is about to meet to value the aforesaid land, and as soon as this is done he will have a platt of the nine acres to carry down to Richmond for the inspection of the Board. The Executive will have to determine with Mr. Ross in regard to including the houses, &c., in the survey. His absence on Public business is his excuse for apparent inattention to this matter.

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*Now known as Shepherdstown, in Jefferson Co., W. Virginia.

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JAMES M. MCCREA, SEARCHER, TO GOV. RANDOLPH. 1787.

Sir :

A few days ago the Schooner Dart, Capt. ——, arrived here from St. Kitt's and entered in Maryland, as sea vessels have usually done since the removal of the naval office from this place. Last night I had information of some Rum being privately Landed from on board the said Schooner in the night time, which Rum was never Enter'd in this State, in consequence of which I went on Board and made seizure of the vessel. Being weak handed I went on shore to collect more to assist in unmooring and bring the vessel to the wharf, but then Capt. the Resisted, and having arm'd himself and others with handspikes, &c., prevented me for some time taking possession of the vessel. The vessel being a second time put in my possession, I put three men on boad to secure her while I was preparing my information for the Judge Advocate for prosecution. During which time a number of persons, many of them belonging to this place, went on board and assisted the Captain to make sail, sending on shore two of my men, the other one they have taken along with them. When the resistance was first made, I Endeavoured to get assistance, as the law directs, by summoning several persons for that purpose, which all refused, and appeared more ready to assist the Violators than the Executor of the Laws. Under these circumstances I was advised by Mr. Lee, our naval officer, to lay the matter before the Executive immediately, that they might, if they judged proper, order out one of the armed State vessels to endeavour to take her on the Bay or River if possible. The Vessell, when she made her escape, went up towards Geo. Town, where she had Enter'd, and if she makes any stay there the State Vessells will have an opportunity of taking her. The difficulties attending seizures at this place will make the office of Searcher a very disagreeable one, if the officer is not better supported than heretofore. The County Lieutenant showed every disposition to assist, but nothing is yet done in Embodying the militia of this County.

June 26th
Alexandria, Va

I have the Honor to be, Sir, with respect,
your most ob't Serv't.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOONER DART, OF ST. KITTS.

Ab't 80 or 90 Tons burthen, two topmasts, standing foretopsail, long, high Quarter Deck, yellow Sides, black Bends, and dark-coloured bottom. The Rum, &c., on board marked S. D.

The owner of the boy Riding Express has engaged his being in Richmond on Thursday evening.

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1787. WALTER CROCKETT

June 26th Montgomery county — Certifies to his having received a Letter from the Governor and Council, dated 18th June, 1787, brought to him by James Addair, who rode Express from that county to Richmond in eight days, &c.

June 26th JAMES INNES, ATTORNEY-GEN'L TO THE GOVERNOR,

Giving his opinion that in as much as the law requires that all tobacco inspected at Lynch's *Ferry, or the Point of Fork, should be deposited at Byrd's, Shockoe, Manchester, Rocky Ridge, or Rocketts warehouses before exported, new manifests should be required therefor in case of revision, but in case no revision occurs at the lower warehouses, the original manifest, countersigned by the Inspectors at the latter, should be regarded lawful and sufficient.

June 27th WM. GRAYSON, DELEGATE, TO THE LIEUT.-GOV. OF VIRIGNIA.

Sir:

New York — Your letters of June 15th and 18th, with their inclosures, were received yesterday, and I have only to lament that there is not, at present, a Congress to whom the unhappy situation of the Western frontiers can be made known. In consequence of your former letter every step has been taken to procure a meeting of the States; at present there are only at this place representations from Massachusets, New York, Jersey, Virg'a, and So. Carolina. As soon as a sufficient number of States shall have assembled, you may rely that every exertion will be made by the delegation to advance the wishes of the Executive. In the meantime your letter of June 18th, shall be laid before the Sec'y at War; *e. i.*, as soon as he returns from Philad'a, and you shall, with't delay, be made acquainted with the result of our application.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, sir,
y'r most obed. Serv't.

June 28th COL. JOSEPH MARTIN TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH, OF VA.

Sir:

Smith's River — Before your Excellencie's favour of the 31st Jan'y last came to hand, I had set out for the Cherokee Country, and did not return to the Long Island, on Holston, before the 16th Instant, where I received the Letter enclosing the Silver medals, which I shall Deliver agreeable to your Excellencie's request, and from the good treatment I have, for almost ten years, experienced from the Executive of Virginia, shall think myself under last-

*Now the town of Lynchburg.

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ing obligations to that honorable body. And could I in future render any service to the State, should feel singular Pleasure in so doing, if apply'd to previous to any other Engagement. 1787. June 28th

I have sent with this some Talks from the Cherokee cheifs, which I have promised to have delivered and bring Back an answer, which I think Very necessary at present.

Before I take my Leave, I beg Liberty to lay Before your Excellency a True state of the Indian affairs. On the 1st Instant I attended a Convention of Indians compos'd of Creeks, Cherokees, Shonies, Nontries and Nottowagoes. The two Last lives near the Lakes, which could not be heard for want of an Interpreter. The Shonie, who accompanied them, had a very good Interpreter with him. The Convention was held on the Mobeal River, in a Cherokee Town call'd Eastenolley. After consulting until the 8th, they sent for me to the Town-House, where I saw them Exchange Beeds, &c., and Heard the Shonie Deliver his Embassie in the following manner:

That he set out from his nation to Represent them, having full power given him by the Cheifs of his nation for that purpose—that he was accompanied by Representatives of nineteen other different Tribes who was to meet in the Tackabatche, a Town in the Creek nation, immediately where they was to settle all their Business—that, on the way, it was agreed that those preasant should come and give the Cherokees notice to attend. The others went by way of the Muscle Shoals, and was to collect the Choctaws and Chickasaws—that a Cheif or two out of every Cherokee Town must attend, which they Readily agreed to. On the 9th I saw the Northwards and Cherokees set out for the Creek nation.

I set out the same morning, and on the evening of the same Day Reach'd a Town, on a Fork of the same River, call'd Calogio, where I fell in with a Spaniard, who took me to be a British Trader, who I did not undeceive. After much Conversation and Questions on Both sides he gave me the following Intelligence, To-wit: that he was Born and Educated in Madrid. Only six years he was to school in France. That, in the year 1781, he, in Company with Nineteen others, formed a Company to carry on a Trade with the Different Tribes of Indians; that they took New Orleans in their way; that they went from thence to Detroit, where they purchased British goods very Cheap for ready Cash; that they took them down the Wawbash River, sending Runners to the Different Tribes to come and get acquainted with them and Trade, which had the Desired affect; that they Beat slowly down the s'd River to the mouth, always having a number of Indians with them to Hunt for them and guard them from the Rebels; that they moved up to the mouth of Tennessee, storing up part of their Goods some little distance above the mouth of the River, and continued up s'd River to the Muscle Shoals, where they have made a stand ever since; that they have on hand Four large Houses full of Goods there under the Direction of a Certain Captain Spanard; that there had been a French Company there also, but they understood

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1787. June 28th that Gen'l Clark had Hang'd six French men at the O'post for Encouraging the Indians to kill the Rebels; that they went off, but Expects them back shortly; that Boats are constantly passing up and down the river; that he was Informed by a Letter from Capt. Spanard that Don Galvis had sent Letters to all the Traders on the waters of the Massesippi to meet at the Chickasaw Landing on the 25th last month; that there was to be an arm'd force there and 20 pieces of cannon, to build a Garrison before the rebels hears anything of the matter; that all the Indians were to Join them; that there was to be a great meeting of the Different Tribes in the Creek nation in the, of this summer, for that purpose; that he was very sure the Indians would all Join them, except the Cherokees and Chickasaws; it being a Dispute with him whether they would or not. My opinion is, that if the Cherokees are attended to, they will never Join in a War against America, unless the British was to land forces in America; in case they should, they would most certainly Join—I mean those on the Mobeal River and the Chickamoggians.

I set out for that quarter shortly to settle my affairs. If your Excellency thinks proper to send any talks in Answer to those sent by the Indians I will Deliver them safe, &c.

I am, Sir, with Very great Respect,

Your Excellencie's most Humble

and most obedient servant.

INDIAN TALKS.

EASTENOLLEY, ye 8 June, 1787.

A Talk Delevered by the King-Fisher, a Cherokee Cheif, to Joseph Martin For Himself and Nation:

Brother:

I am now speaking to my Elder Brother to let him know that I am Better satisfied in mind than I have been for many years, as there appears to me a better Prospect of peace then their ever has been since the Beginning of the War. This Town is called Eastenolley, a Beloved Town, where all the Good Talks are held. All our Head men and Warriors are now met Together, and we are to have no more Talk of War, but all peace.

It gives me Great satisfaction to think that the Great man above Has altered our hearts, * * * By that means keep peace in our land. Before this I have been always uneasy. I could not sleep Good of night. When our Young Men was Doing things that was Bad, when I Laid down I Did not know whether I should live Till morning. But now all those things are Droped. Now I can go to sleep in peace, and wake in peace, Without having any dread on me. All the Young men have now Joined In with the Beloved men, and thinks of

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nothing else Hearafter. In former Days the old Beloved of this Nation opened a path from here to Virginia, the same as Formerly. We have all come to one Resolution to Join our heads with a Determine Resolution to keep that path open. The great man above made both White and Red people, and it is he that was the cause of our meeting Together this Day. In former Days, when Beloved men held Good Talks, Their seed then grew up and prospered. The Northward Indians came hear and gave a Talk to us to all Join our heads together and keep peace, what ever us did, with our Elder Brother, the White People. 1787. June 28th

These Northward Indians told us that they Came from their own Nation, where all their Head men had assembled, and sent them to be at peace, what ever they did; that the great man above made the Earth and every thing that moves upon it. There is nothing * * * The Great man ordered it a great while ago, and occas'd a cloud to arise Between * * * . When the cloud was between, his, and our Talks together, occasioned a great deal of Blood to be spilt, but now that cloud is Removed, and our Beloved men are Talking Together, I hope ther will never be any Blood spilt by either side. There was a cloud over us for a make-haste; it's not last long, and I hope what was done will be looked over, and fa Both sides to listen to thar Beloved Men's Talks. Now, my Elder brother hears what I have to say. I have grown up since he has. What I have to say is but little. Tho' you are older than I am, I am the old man hear, and this is the Beloved Place to hold good Talks on and Smoke Tob'o. I have never sent to my Elder Brother of Virginia Before, as I could not do it with any Face, but I can now send and Be not ashamed of what I say. The path was made by our beloved men. Learning the path, that we may Hear from Each other again. It was a long time before I could bring matters to bear, but I have now brought it about, and I hope to keep that path open. I am now telling you the truth, and nothing else. You may depend on what I now tell you. I was often trying to Send Good Talks to my elder Brother of Virginia, but I was afraid that my young men would do Something that would spile it, but I have at last Brought Things about that I can do it without any kind of Fear. You are my Elder Brother, and I hope when you see this you will Receive it, and order matters so that our young seed may Grow up in peace. What is left of us is but few, and by the beloved men's good Talks I hope that our young Seed will Grow up and we shall Increase. You are our Elder Brother, but the land we live in is ours, and we have but little more left us than the weadth and Breadth of my feet. I am telling you that what Land I have is very little, For our Elder Brother is Close on us.

You are the Beloved man of Virginia, and we beg that you will do something for us, and move these People off our Lands if possible; if they could be moved of, it would give great Satisfaction to all our People, that we might have Room to Live and Hunt on. I have given my Talk, and hope you will.

A String of Beeds.

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1787. A Talk Delivered by the old Corn Tassle, a Cherokee Chief, for the Governor of Virginia, in Chota, ye 12th of June, 1787:

Brother:

June 28th I this Day Received your Talk open without any Date or Direction, which I think Very Strange of, as I have had many From the Beloved men of Virginia, which was always Sealed and Directed, and was very good. But your Letter I Don't like. It says too much about fire and sword, and accuses us of things we are clear of—in particular Burning a woman in Chickamogga, which is not true. There has never been any person Burnt in our nation since the first Treaty at the Long Island, which is ten years Past. It seems as if you was fond of Beleiving Lies and Looking over Truth. We have had several Letters from the Beloved men of Virginia, which was all Good. When peace was made you was not Governor, and the first letter you ever sent it was fire and sword, and charge us with things we are clear of. If you are a Just man you will Enquire into matters Before you write so Rash, and stand to the Truth. I remember very well, and so may you, that your Beloved men appointed Commissioners to Treat with us and fix a Boundary, which was done, and your Commiss'rs promised in the name of Virginia that the Bounds then fixt on should stand as long as the Sun shined or water Run. All this, I suppose, is forgot by you, Because it is true your people has settled to our Towns; tho' you say nothing about That, tho' the faith of your Country is at stake on it; but if any Person tells you any thing that is bad about us you can believe that and threaten us with fire and sword.

It is well known that I have done everything in my power to keep peace In my land and hold fast all the treaties and Good Talks and Keep my young men from doing mischief, and I wish I had no Greater cause to complain than you have. I observe in every Treaty that we Have had that a bound is fixt, but we always find that your people settle much faster shortly after a Treaty than Before. It is well known that you have Taken almost all our Country from us without our consent. That Don't seem to satisfy my Elder Brother, but he still Talks of fire and sword. I suppose some person Has told my Elder Brother this in order to have us Drove off, as they may Take what Little Land we have left, Which is very Little, not sufficient to keep us much Longer from Perishing. Truth is, if we had no Land we should have Fewer Enemies. I hope my Elder Brother will be more serious, and consider Before he writes so Rash, and Enquire whether his People or mine are most in fault. I make no Doubt but you are a great man, and suppose we are a foolish people; but we have seen Enough to know we are Used Ill. Great part of our Ill treatment has proceeded from me in keeping my Young men from Doing mischief. Had I suffered them to kill people when they would find them hunting and settling our land Like the Creeks and Shonies, I suppose they would not settl'd so much of our country, but I would not suffer them to hurt any

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white man, Trusting to the fair promises of my Elder Brother to do me Justice, and have waited a long time to Hear from my Elder Brother, that he would Remove his people of my Land; but instead of that he wants fire and sword, without taking any notice of his people's Encroaching and Ill Treatment. 1787. June 28th

I am Desirous of living in peace with my Elder Brother of Virginia, and shall continue to keep good order in my Towns Till I hear further from my elder Brother, which I hope will be very soon.

CORN TASSLE.

THIRD TALK.

CHOTA, ye 12th June, 1787.

Brother:

I am now going to speak to you. I hope you will Listen to me, and let me have a Letter from you shortly. I am sorry to hear you Talk of fire and sword. We are but a small People, or, at least, few of us are not able to Fight such a powerful People as Virginia, which I suppose is the reason of your Talking so Rash to us, and accuse us of things we are clear off. The People that does the greatest mischief are the Creeks, but they are past over because they are strong and willing to fight. For my part, I am not able nor willing to fight. If you Force me to it I must do the best I can and Look for new friends, which I shall be very sorry to do I have long taken the Virginians by the hand, and have at this time one of their meddles round my neck. I should be sorry to throw that off and put on a Strange one. I suppose the Reason of your Talking so sharp to us is, you love our Land, and know we are not able to fight for it. You Suffer your People to settle to our Towns and say nothing about it, but if the Creeks or Shonies does you any mischief you Threaten us with fire and sword. For my part I love peace. I formerly Loved War, and Lived at Chicamogga, but Colo. Martin sent for me to come away. Being his Relation, I came, and six winters is past that I have taken his talk and assisted him in keeping peace. I now live in Chuster, the Middle Ground between Chota and Chickamogga. I stand up like a wall between Bad people and my Brothers, the Virginians. Both Creeks and Chickamoggians has been turned back from doing mischief by me. My name is Tuskegetchee. I command seven towns; thirteen others listen to my talk. This is the first Talk I ever sent. I hope to have an answer by my nephew, Colo. Martin, shortly, and Directed to me in Chustoch.

I inclose you a string of Beeds.

TUSKEGETCHEE,
Or the Long fellow.

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1787. CHARLES LEE, NAVAL OFFICER, SOUTH POTOWMACK.

To the Hon'ble BEVERLY RANDOLPH, *Lieutenant-Governor:*

Sir:

June 29th Alexandria, Va

A late occurrence at this port, which I think it my duty to represent fully to the Executive, will serve to show the necessity of having an armed boat stationed here to assist in the due execution of the laws, or the officers of the Commonwealth will not only be insulted, but frustrated in the discharge of their duty. On the 26th, the Seacher being informed that the Schooner Dart, Capt. Dodds, which, together with her whole cargo, had been duly entered at the naval office in Georgetown, and ways lying in the river off Alexandria, had been putting into craft and landing in Virginia, in the night time, West india rum, upon which the duties had not been paid or secured in this Commonwealth. He considered himself bound to enquire into it, and for that purpose went on board that schooner. He returned on shore of opinion he should seize on and prosecute the vessel, and having got some hands, in order to take charge of the vessel, he went to the vessel intending to seize her, and being alongside of her was forbid by Capt. Dodds to come on board, and prevented from so doing by the crew, who were on deck armed with handspikes, &c. The Searcher then sumumoned sundry persons to assist him, who all refused In going home he met with me in the streets, and soon after Mr. Donaldson, a merchant here, to whom the vessel is consigned, came up to us with expressions of alarm and fright in his countenance, and said that the Captain had done wrong, that the laws should be submitted to, and if we would go back with him the vessel should be delivered up to the officer of the Commonwealth. I told him I wished to look at some of our laws first, and desired him to walk with me to a house for that purpose, which he did. Having examined the laws and satisfied the Searcher and him as to some matters, I said to Mr. Donaldson, who was applying for leave to give security for the forthcoming of the vessel at the trial, or some such thing, that the vessel, in the first place, must be delivered up to the Searcher, and afterwards it might be considered what should be done, to which Mr. Donaldson replied that if we would go with him he would see her delivered up. Upon this we all went on board with sundry others, who were to take care of the vessel. I observed to Capt. Dodds that he had misbehaved in resisting an officer in the legal execution of his office. He seemed embarrassed, and excused himself by saying that he should not have done it if the people on our wharf had not cried out to him to resist. Mr. Donaldson told the Capt. that the vessel was to be done with as the Searcher pleased, and the Capt. then observed he supposed he had no business on board. I told him he need not leave the vessel, but the searcher would direct him what was to be done with her. Capt. Dodd applied to him to know what was to be done, and he, the Searcher, gave

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1787.
June 29th

some directions in order that the vessel might be laid up at a particular wharf.

In this state of things I left the vessel, and soon after the Searcher also left her under the care of Robert Evans and two other men. She was under way up to the wharf when Capt. Dodds and others confined R. Evans and the other two men in the cabin and set sail to Georgetown, where he has laid his vessel up along a wharf and fast to the Maryland shore, and keeps himself in that State.

The misdemeanor of Capt. Dodds in resisting the officer in the first instance, and his violent taking and carrying away the vessel out of the possession of Robert Evans and others, after she had been lawfully seized and formally delivered into the hands of the officers of the Commonwealth, were, in my consideration, offences for which every exertion ought to be made, in order that their punishment might be exemplary. Expecting to find the vessel off Georgetown in the stream, and Capt. Dodds on board, I had warrants issued to apprehend him to bring him to justice, and yesterday went up with a constable. Supposing force might be necessary, the Searcher, with some armed men, came up also in a boat, for the purpose of retaking the vessel. On my arrival I found the vessel in such a state, that is to say, made fast to the Maryland shore aside a wharf, that I did not think it lawful to attempt to take her by force, and Capt. Dodds being in Georgetown, the warrants could not be executed on him there by our constable.

I applied to one of the Maryland magistrates, Mr. Thompson, for a warrant, and produced to him an affidavit of the facts before related, in order to have Capt. Dodds apprehended and dealt with according to law. He refused, saying it was a State affair. After some difficulty a warrant was obtained from Mr. Magruder, another magistrate, but I expect Capt. Dodds, if taken, will immediately be discharged by the magistrates in Maryland, as it is a new business in which I find it disagreeable to them to act, least they should do wrong.

Should Capt. Dodds and his vessel, which belongs to some inhabitants in St. Christopher's, escape without even a trial, it will be an evil example to others, and the laws and officers of the Commonwealth will not only be opposed and evaded, but treated with contempt.

I trust, sir, measures will be taken, by sending one of the armed boats to seize this vessel in the river as she may proceeding down to go to sea. I expect she will set off as soon as she can, and probably will be found without a register or a clearance, as I have represented this case to the naval officer at Georgetown. She is about 80 tons burthen and black bottom.

A copy of this letter I intend to send to the Governor of Maryland, that the truth may be known to the Executive of that State, and thereby they may be enabled to do whatever may seem to them expedient.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,
your most obed't, humbl. Serv't.

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1787. GEORGE MASON, DELEGATE, TO HON. BEVERLY RANDOLPH, OF VA.

June 30th Dear Sir:

Philadelphia The convention having resolved that none of their proceedings shou'd be communicated during their Sitting, puts it out of my power to give you any particular Information upon the Subject. *Festina lente* seems hitherto to have been our maxim. Things, however, are now drawing to that point on which some of the fundamental principles must be decided, and two or three Days will probably enable us to Judge—which is at present very doubtful—whether any sound and effectual system can be established or not. If it cannot, I presume we shall not continue here much longer; if it can, we shall probably be detained 'til September.

I feel myself disagreebly circumstanced in being the only member of the Assembly in the Virginia Delegation, and, consequently, if any system shall be recommended by the Convention, that the whole weight of Explanation must fall upon me; and if I should be prevented by sickness or accident from attending the Assembly, that it will be difficult for the Assembly to obtain such Information as may be necessary upon the subject, as I presume that in the progress thro' the Legislature many Questions may be asked and Inquiries made, in which satisfactory Information, from time to time, can hardly be given but by a member of the House in his place.

We have just received Information here that Mr. Wythe has made a Resignation, and does not intend to return. Under these circumstances I wou'd beg leave to submit it to the Consideration of the Executive, whether it might not be proper to fill the Vacancy in the Delegation, occasioned by Mr. Wythe's Resignation, with some member of the Assembly. Mr. Corbin being here, his appointment, if it shall be judged proper, wou'd occasion little additonal charge to the State, if the Convention shou'd, unfortunately, break up without adopting any substantial System—that Event will happen, I think—before the appointment can reach this place; if the Convention continues to proceed on the Business, with a prospect of success, Mr. Corbin is on the Spot; and I doubt it may be difficult to prevail on any member of the Assembly, now in Virginia, to come hither at this late Stage of the Business.

I beg you will do me the Favour to lay this Subject before the Council, and believe me, with the greatest esteem and regard, dear sir,

Your most ob'd't Serv't, &c., &c.

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JAMES M. MCREA, J'N'R, TO ———. 1787.

Sir:

By return of the Express I had the honor to receive your letter, previous to which the necessary steps were taken to impose the fines upon those persons who refused when call'd upon to render their assistance in Seizing the schooner Dart. I cannot say with certainty who assisted in Rescuing the Vessel; but just after she was under way, she was boarded by James Woodward, Thomas Triplett and George Slakum—the two former of this place, and the latter keeps a Packet-boat between this place and Norfolk. When I was going on board the Schooner the above George Slacum call'd to the Capt., and told him to keep off the boat and not suffer me to board him; and when the three persons above named were going on board, Woodward apply'd to Capt. Slakum to know if he cou'd lend the Capt of the Schooner Dart some hands, to which Slakum reply'd he had but one on board. They stay'd on board till the vessel pass'd the Town. Mitchell Donaldson was active on board, assisted the Capt. in Resisting me in the first place and afterwards in taking the Vessell away. The Schooner is still at George Town nearly loaded, and will probably take the first fair wind and pass this place in the night, if some steps are not taken to secure her. July 2d Alexandria

I have the honor to be respectfully,
Sir,
Your mo. Obe't Serv't.

A PROMINENT CITIZEN July 2d

Fined Five Pounds and treble tax, for refusing to give in a list of his Taxable property, by the County and Quarterly Court of that County. Richmond county

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COLO. T. MERIWETHER July 4th

Makes Report of the Pay-Roll and Cloathing of the Guard, and of the Stores at Point of Fork, by Order, &c.

PETITION OF RICH'D DOWNS AND BRAYON AUSTIN FOR REPREIVE, July 5th

They being now under sentence of death by hanging, after trial by the General Court for having burglariously entered the Smoke-House of Capt. Gill, and having taken from thence some Bacon, &c., &c. Richmond goal

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1787. CONTRACT MADE WITH WM. ROSE,

July 6th Keeper of the Public Jail, by Wm. Geddy, to supply the said Jail with three Iron Doors, with good and Sufficient Locks, for the sum of Twenty-three Pounds.

July 7th WILLIAM GRAYSON, DELEGATE, TO LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR RANDOLPH OF VIRGINIA.

New York Sir:

Yesterday there was a Congress of Seven States. Your communications respecting Indian affairs were laid before them, and were referred to the Secretary at war for report. This may be expected in a day or two.

Your letter on the subject of the disturbances in the back parts of No. Carolina has also been presented to their view, but no steps have been yet taken thereon. Indeed, it is very difficult to get any thing done with so thin a representation.

I have the honor to be,

With the highest respect,

Y'r most ob't and very h'ble Serv't.

July 8th THE BOAT PATRIOT

Hampton, Va Returned from a cruise, lost her main-mast off Horn-harbour house, with other damage done. Michael James reports, however, that he can have her ready in four or five days to sail for the Potomac.

July 8th DAVID ROSS TO HON. MILES SELDEN, &C.

Petersburg, Va Sometime ago he exchanged one Ton of Iron, delivered at the Point of Fork, for the same quantity of Lead received at Fort Chizell. He wants another ton of lead at the same place in exchange for anything that the State may need. The lead thus acquired he uses on the Frontiers at the confluence of the main branches of Holston, in paying for provisions and labor in the construction at that point of very extensive works.

July 8th NEGRO SLAVES

Surry county Tried and condemned by the County Court for Burglary, &c. Sentenced to suffer death by hanging, &c.

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JOSIAH PARKER, NAVAL OFFICER, TO THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, 1787.

Giving reasons why he cannot at once make up and forward his Returns, but says he has on hand a weight of money which cannot be conveyed by land. He is often a week on the water with it, and would prefer to apply it to the purposes intended rather than keep it on hand, by which he is constantly made uneasy for fear of losing it, &c. July 10th Portsmouth

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OTWAY BYRD TO LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR BEV. RANDOLPH. July 11th

Sir:

It is not on my private acquaintance that I presume to address you, but in your official capacity. I beg leave to engage your attention to an injury done me (through the intrigues of a Mr. Styth Hardyman) by the Court of this County, and which the Laws authorize you to frustrate. Sometime in the course of the month of March, in the year 1786, Mr. Munford, the late Sheriff of this County, died, in consequence of which I, as the next in the Commission of the Peace, succeeded to the office, and quallified in the May Court, following the long established custom prescribed by Law, that an annual recommendation of three magistrates should be sent to the Governor between the last day of June and the last day of August, and that the first mentioned in the recommendation has generally been nominated, induced Mr. Hardyman, after I withdrew from the Courthouse, to bring forward the recommendation before himself and three other magistrates, where my name was omitted, and his own inserted at the head of those sent up, by which means he, of course, expects to obtain a Commission that will supercede mine; but as both Law and Custom has ever indulged the acting Sheriff with the Office for two years at least, and in my situation two from the succeeding October of his quallifying, and from its having been evidently in my possession only fourteen months, I presume on an expectation of meeting with the same indulgence from you that has uniformly been granted to every individual in my situation, and I must beg leave to intrude one additional circumstance that I am persuaded you will think strengthens my claim, which is my having given up to the Estate of the late Sheriff the benefits of a collection of the Taxes that was made in my time, from conceiving it to be his right; and this, Sir, if necessary, may be attest'd by Mr. Munford's Executor and the Collectors that received the Taxes. Should the Governor return before it is necessary a new Commission should issue, I will take the liberty to request the favour of you to offer this letter as addressed to the Chief-Magistrate of Virginia, with whom I most cheerfully rest the decision of the matter in question. Charles City county

I have the Honor to be, Sir,

Your most Obed't Serv't.

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1787. JAMES M. MCREA TO HON. BEV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

July 11th Alexandria Since I had the honor of addressing you last, the Schooner Dart has sailed from George Town and passed this place in the night time. However, I hoped the arm'd boats wou'd be prepar'd to intercept her, as her being regularly brought to tryal I conceive wou'd fully Justify the Seizure and convince those persons who so violently opposed it here of their error. However, I am satisfied that every person of distinction here approves my conduct.

The person who was suspected of Informing Against this vessell was, the same day of the seizure, assaulted and abused very much by the mob, against many of whom I have had suits commenced in the name of the injured person for damages, but fear all that will be got by so doing will be poor recompence for the Injuries he received. Some days after the Seizure of the vessell a most violent outrage was committed on the person of William Berry, a poor Labourer of this Town, who was, by four men, disguised, taken out of his house in the night, and by them beat in an inhuman manner, and cut and stabbed in several places with a cutlass, by which he will probably be disabled and rendered incapable of obtaining a livelihood. Another man named David Motley was, a few nights after, attacked by three men, who wounded him in many places with the point of a Sword. Those persons are both used thus on suspicion of their being informers, when, in fact, they are totally innocent of the charge. However, there is no doubt but it will have the same effect in detering any person from giveing an information as if they were the real informers. None of the persons guilty of these enormities are known, and the Common Council of this Town thought proper to enquire into the matter, and have come to a determination to offer a Reward of Forty Dollars for the discovery of the guilty persons. At the same time I considered it my duty to lay the matter before the Executive as particularly as possible that they may take what steps they think proper.

I am informed that Colo. Hooe, who is well known, did countenance the opposition made by the Crew of the Schooner Dart, and said they shou'd knock me down and not allow me to make the Seizure. The countenance of such a man as Colo. Hooe wou'd have great weight among the lower class of people, who wou'd think they wou'd thereby be justified in commiting every outrage.

I have the honor to be respectfully, Sir,

Your mo. ob't Serv't

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EDMUND RANDOLPH TO BEV. RANDOLPH, L'T-GOVERNOR. 1787.

Sir:

The Deputation here have desired me to obtain a further sum of money. I have accordingly drawn for one hundred pounds, which the Executive will oblige us by paying. July 12th Philadelphia

I beg leave to enclose my own account. It contains an article charged without authority, but arising from circumstances which I could not avoid. A Cherokee chief came hither under the conduct of an interpreter, who urged me to send a talk and a present. I could not refuse the one nor the other, and conceived that a silver pipe, with some symbols of Virginian and Cherokee friendship would be an ornament to the town-house of the Indians, and a small medal would conciliate the cheif who visited me. I do not, however, wish that these presents should be paid for by the public, unless the fullest propriety should dictate the measure. If it should not appear to be perfectly allowable, I hope that there will not be the least hesitation in rejecting it, as I consider myself wholly unauthorized to make such a present. Mr. Wythe left fifty pounds with us, of which an account will be rendered by us.

I have the honor, Sir, to be,
With great respect,
Y'r mo. ob. Ser't.

Acc't enclosed.

DR. EDM. RANDOLPH, To the Com'w'lth of Virginia.

1787.		
May—To cash	£ 100.	
June—To cash to Mrs. R	50.	
	£ 150.	
		CR.
By attendance on the Convention, together with travelling Expences from 6th of May inclusive, to 19th July inclusive, being 74 days, at 6 dollars per day, which are equal to 444 dollars; which are equal to	£ 133. 4.	
By cash paid for a silver medal and a silver pipe for the Cherokees, £11. 16. 6., Penn'a currency	£ 9. 9. 3.	
	£ 142. 13. 3.	

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1787. DAVID ROSS TO LIEUT.-GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

July 13th Petersburg I received information last night that the Commissary of Stores at the Point of Fork would, on the 18th instant, have a jury summon'd, in order to have 9 Acres of Land condemn'd for Erecting certain new magazines, said to be necessary for the reception of Public Stores.

I presume this condemnation is to be made under the act of assembly of 1780, passed in order to obtain part of Balandine's ground at Westham, which was accordingly taken, and, as well as I recollect, the measure was not relish'd even in those days, and, I beleive, for that reason never afterwards made use of.

In consequence of the resolution of Assembly, pass'd the 12th November, '85, and an order of the Executive, of the 19th December follow'g, I attended with the surveyor of the County, and no person appearing in behalf of the State, I laid off 2 surveys, the one including the public buildings with 10 acres, and the other including 50 acres, or thereabouts, leaving it in the option of the Executive to Lease the lesser or the larger quantity, as should be most convenient, and the allowance to be made settled by disinterested persons. If this mode of accommodating the Public, which appears to be consonant to the Resolution of the House and the determination of the Executive at that time would now be satisfactory, I would willingly do all that is necessary on my part for the public convenience.

If it be required that the Public shall have a fee simple in the ground the new magazines are to stand upon, I will execute a deed for it, so long as it shall be occupied for the public purposes, without any price or consideration; provided, your Commissary will be satisfied with such and so much ground as is necessary for the said magazines. I have taken the liberty to make this communication from a persuasion that the Executive wish not for the operation of the act of 1780, if it can be avoided.

I must also observe to you that I am informed a survey of 9 acres hath already been made in such a manner as to spoil 50 acres of Land, and run with a variety of corners, so as to include property and to answer purposes not within the words or meaning of said Law.

As I am confident the Executive would give no instructions that would be oppressive to any citizen, I cannot think this survey hath been made by their direction, and that in whatever manner the ground is obtained, the survey will be alter'd, as I could not willingly submit to such a measure.

I am, sir, your most obedient.

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SAMPSON MATHEWS, MILES SELDEN, AND BOLLING STARKE, 1787.

The Committee appointed to confer with and advise the Treasurer in regard to the policy of selling the Public Tobacco, in order to the settlement of claims against the State, report in favor of suspending said sales of the Tobacco in Rappahannock and Potomac Districts. July 14th

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LEVI TODD, CLERK OF THE COUNTY, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA, July 16th

Expressing the gratification of the people that some recognition is at last taken of their complaints and exposed situation. Should Congress order offensive movements against their enemies the militia of the District will be glad to assist in these operations. The result of the Court martial, held at Bardstown, in the case of Col. Patterson, is not yet known in Kentucky. He cannot account for this, but thinks directions with regard to him must have miscarried. Adds: "That worthy and active officer has surely experienced a mortification sufficient to atone for a crime of greater magnitude than I hope he was guilty of. The loss of his service is sensibly felt by myself and many others. Fayette county, Kentucky

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EDW'D CARRINGTON TO LIEUT.-GOV. BEV. RANDOLPH. July 17th

Sir:

I do myself the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favors of the 29th of June and 6th Instant. New York

Congress have reassembled, but not in sufficient force for directing the necessary measures in the Western Country. The various communications with which we have been honoured respecting the hostilities in that quarter, have been submitted to the consideration of Congress. In a few days we shall probably have nine States on the floor, and then we shall urge an immediate decision.

I have the honor to be, D'r Sir, with great respect,

your most ob't Servant.

DAVID STUART TO HON. BEV. RANDOLPH. July 17th

Dear Sir:

The late occurrences in Alexandria respecting the sloop Dart, induce me to trouble you with a few lines. I observe from the letter of the Executive to the Searcher, that they are properly alarmed on the subject. It now appears that the trade which the above vessel was detected in carrying on, has been practiced by most vessels since the late regulations. It is, accordingly, the general opinion here that she could not have Abingdon

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1787. July 17th

been condemned on a trial. They consider themselves justified in this practice by the Compact law, which makes the Potomac free to both States for the purposes of commerce. A vessel that enters in Maryland, they say, has only to observe that she does not violate the commercial regulations of that State. By these being permitted to sell goods by retail long side of her, it is imposible to know whether the boats she sells to belong to Maryland or Virginia; that, therefore, the Virginia laws can only affect the small boats and not the vessel with which they deal. If this construction be just, you see what a door is opened to smuggling, and how unhappy it is for the revenue arising from commerce in this State. As each State always possessed a right of regulating its own trade as it thought proper, the eleventh article of the compact law appears to me totally nugatory under the above construction. I, therefore, think—tho' I am singular in my opinion in this part of the world—that a vessel, tho' entered in Maryland, is as much bound not to violate the Commercial regulations of Virginia as of the State in which she entered, and, of course, equally liable to seizure. Many difficulties, however, in the way of trade attend this opinion. Since a vessel, tho' entered in Maryland, will be fearful of using the privileges she is entitled to under the laws of that State, and to be safe must conform to the regulations of the State which is most rigid, and so *vice versa*. These, however, to me, only evince the necessity of the duties between the States being assimilated, and the compact was certainly formed on this presumption. Otherwise it has been an unhappy transaction for Virginia, whose regulations being most rigid, will, infallibly, throw all the trade into Maryland, under the construction I first mentioned, and force the people of this State to smuggle.

I hope, therefore, the Executive, who, from the nature of their office, must have full knowledge of the practicability of the laws in general, will not think it inconsistent with their duty to give their testimony to the Legislature, at its meeting, of the absolute necessity of assimilation. If, in the meantime, they think as I do of the compact law, and think proper to send their opinion on it, I will take care to make it known. Tho', perhaps, it would be most proper to send it by way of instructions to the Searcher. I shall only mention further on this subject, that there have been, on an average all the spring, before the town of Alexandria, about fifteen ships and brigs. Scarce five of these have been entered in Virginia, while there can be no doubt but the rest, under the common interpretation of the Compact law, have carried on a great trade with the inhabitants. It is, indeed, openly avowed. The Searcher, from my knowledge of him, is a faithful, active officer, and if it was possible to put a stop to this business, I am sure he would do it.

I believe it to be very necessary, however, that the Searchers on the upper parts of the river should be desired to attend better to their duty. The merchants here have good information of great quantities of tobacco being carried from the upper Counties on the Potomac to Maryland. Upwards of a hundred and five hogsheads were, from good information,

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lately carried all nearly at one time. This practice, while the present tax subsists on tobacco, is not only so much loss to the State, but throws the burdens unequally on individuals. I cannot close this letter without taking notice of a late enormity committee in Alexandria, which appears to give much alarm to all who feel an anxiety that the laws should be supported. It is the cruel manner in which two men, suspected of giving information respecting the sloop Dart, were beat by men who broke into their houses at a late hour of the night with masks on. Not contented with this treatment, however, they obliged them by their threats to leave town for fear of another visit, when it seems they had a promise of being murdered. The Corporation have offered a reward of forty dollars to any one who will give information of the perpetrators, and I cannot but think it would have a good effect if the Executive should think it worth their notice to offer a reward on their part for the indignity on the State at large. I am, D'r Sir, with great regard,

Your most Ob't Serv't.

1787. July 17th

DAVID ROSS TO COLO. T. MERIWETHER, July 19th

Point of Fork

Acknowledging receipt of his in regard to the valuing of the Land at that place, desired for the use of the State, in order to erect upon it additional buildings, &c. Mr. Ross desires that he should be allowed to name men of character and understanding, whose minds were unprejudiced, &c., and who did not reside in that county, who were to put upon the land a fair valuation. He, therefore had named John Breckenridge, of Albemarle, and John Walker, of Orange Co., men of unexceptionable character. The Agent of the State had, however, nominated two Gentlemen, between whom and himself there had been a variance, and notwithstanding reliable information had been given to the Agent that these two judges on this account should not be employed, he would not appoint any others. For this reason prudence forbids that he, Mr. Ross, should risk his interests to such hands. Regretting therefore the necessity of giving so much trouble to the Executive, he is still ready and willing to consult the convenience of the Public by granting a Fee Simple title to the land desired, altho' it is in the heart of his property. To accomplish this, he now proposes that the Executive name 5 honest men, out of which number he will name 3, who shall determine what consideration he is to receive for the property. If this proposition be adopted, he is willingto add a further piece of ground to the 9 acre wanted, &c. As he is about to leave the Point of Fork, no objection will be offered to making the deed, and settlement in Richmond.

Enclosed is the following:

"I am willing, in conjunction with the Superintendent of Military Stores, to lay of a piece of ground so as to include the Mill Seat, and on

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1787. July 19th

the other side to go down to the Spring, to be used in common and round the buildings, as far as to leave room for gardens on each side. On the side where the magazine is to be built, I am also willing to extend the line at least 100 yards on all sides, that no buildings may be erected within that distance.

"I have no objections (as I cannot well describe the ground here) to lay off what appears sufficient, and lay'd before the Executive for their approbation before a valuation or deed, so that it may be altered if not satisfactory to them."

Also the following:

"Agreed upon by and between Thomas Meriwether on behalf of the Commonwealth in conformity to the orders of the Executive of the one part, and David Ross, of the County of Fluvanna, of the other part—That whereas there is at present a certain portion of the Land belonging to the said David Ross, in the County of Fluvanna, at the place called the Point of Fork, now occupied by the Public for the reception of Arms, Ammunition, and other Public stores, and also for Artificers' shops, and it being expedient to erect additional magazines and other Buildings for the Public purposes, and that the ground necessary for the same shall be vested in the Common Wealth in Fee Simple, and not held under ground-rent as at present—That the Lands necessary for the buildings aforesaid shall be laid off by the Surveyor of the County, so as to include the nine acres cont'd in a plot formerly laid before the Executive, including such an additional quantity of Land as that the line may be at least one hundred yards distant from the place the new magazine is to be erected at, and also leaving a space, not less than one hundred and fifty feet, on all sides of the present row of buildings as they stand on a line on either side of the street, or any public work erected, or about to be erected. And whereas the former Survey includes a Spring, it is agreed that the s'd Spring shall be held in common for the use of the post and the said David Ross, his heirs or assigns—That the said David Ross for himself, and for his heirs, ex'rs and adm'rs, hereby engages that he will now, and in all times to come, suffer and permit a good Waggon road to be kept open through his Land from the said Post to the Landing on the North Run, known by the name of the Barracks landing, which landing on that side shall also be kept open and used in common by the said parties—That the Survey being thus made, the same shall be laid before John Nicholas, John Coles, Wilson Cary Nicholas and Richard James, Esq'rs, or any three of them, who are appointed as well on the part and in behalf of the said David Ross as for the Common Wealth, to view and consider of the value of the said Lands under all its circumstances, and to determine what price or consideration in ready money the said David Ross shall receive from the Common Wealth for the property aforesaid, and convey to the Public a Fee Simple Estate in the same. And the said Thomas Meriwether, on behalf of the State, and duly authorized by the

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Executive, engages to and with the said David Ross that the price or consideration, as judged and determined upon by the referees aforesaid, shall be paid to the said David Ross, his heirs or assigns; and the said David Ross on his part engages for himself and his heirs, &c., that he will execute or cause to be executed such Deed or conveyance as shall be prepared by the direction of the Executive for conveying the Lands aforesaid and securing to the Publick the use of the Spring, road and Landing." 1787. July 19th

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WILL. CLAYTON TO THE GOVERNOR OF VA. IN REPLY, July 20th

Enclosing affidavits and such other evidence as could be procured in regard to the burning of the Prison and Clerk's office at New Kent Co. House, on Sunday night, the 15th July, 1787. On this occasion all the papers and records were destroyed. The fire was not discovered by his family and himself until the office was allmost burnt down. The testimony of witnesses proved that John Price Posey had assaulted Rob't B. Armstead, the Sheriff of the County, a few days before the destruction of these buildings, for which he was imprisoned for one month in default of security for his good behavior. On the night of the 12th July the prison was broken open and Posey escaped therefrom. One Thomas Green was suspected of having aided John P. Posey in making his escape On the night of the conflagration both Green and Posey were arrested, and at this date were in custody of a guard, awaiting examination before a Court to be held on the 24th July, 1787. New Kent county

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HARRY INNES TO HIS EXCELL'Y, EDMUND RANDOLPH. July 21st

Sir:

Your Excellency's letter, of the 1st of May, was delivered to me on the 6th Instant, and after reflecting on the contents, I feel myself constrained to ask of the Executive in what capacity they view me, because, from the tone of your letter, it would be construed that I was vested with some Executive powers. Your letter directs me to institute the proper legal inquiries for indicating the infractions of the Peace. How I am to proceed on that business from so vague a direction, I know not. In my official capacity, I cannot do it; in a private capacity, it would render me odious. But from whom I am to enquire, or against whom your Exc'y wishes a prosecution to be instituted, your Exc'y's letter is silent. Kentucky

If your Exc'y calls upon me in a private capacity, I shall be ever ready and willing to give you such information, as far as may come to my knowledge, of any matter in which the weal of the State may be interested, and shall now give you the information on the subject which your letter refers to, viz: Colo. John Logan's excursion in February last and some other.

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1787. July 21st

Indians had made their appearance upon our South Eastern Frontiers at several different times in the Fall and winter. Some of our Hunters had been attacked, and early in February one of our citizens killed at his own house. This induced Colo. John Logan, the then commanding officer of Lincoln, to raise his corps to range on the waters of Cumberland, and to rendezvous at or near the place where the person had been killed, which was on a branch of Green River. Within a few miles of the place of Rendezvous Colo. Logan came upon the Trail of the Indians, who, it was supposed, had committed the murder. He followed and overtook them, killed 7, and got possession of the Horses and Skins they had along, among which was a valuable mare of mine and a horse belonging to a Mr. Blaine, of Lincoln, also a Rifle Gun, which was well known to belong to a person who was murdered in October, in the wilderness, on his Journey to this District. Judge from these facts of the innocence of the Cherokees.

Since the excursion of Colo. Logan, one hath been made by some volunteers from Fayette and Bourbon, under the command of Colo. Robert Todd, to the Sciota, in consequence of an information received from the Shawanese of the Hostile conduct of a small Tribe, s'd to be Cherokees, who had settled on Paint Creek. Upon this occasion 3 were killed and 7 taken, who have since made their Escape.

Last Fall an excursion was made to the Saline by some volunteers from Nelson, under Capt. Hardin, who fell in with some Indians, 3 or 4 of whom he killed and put the others to flight. Another hath been made from Jefferson the last of May, under Maj. Oldham, upon the waters of the Wabash, but nothing was done. The Indians have been very troublesome on our Frontiers, and still continue to molest us, from which circumstance I am decidedly of opinion that this western Country will, in a few years, Revolt from the Union and endeavour to erect an Independent Government; for, under the present system, we cannot exert our strength, neither does Congress seem disposed to protect us, for we are informed that those very troops which Congress directed the several States to raise for the defence of the western country are disbanded. I have just dropped this hint to your Exc'y for matter of reflection; if some step is not taken for protection, a little time will prove the truth of the opinion. Before I close my letter, my Duty to support the Dignity of this District compels me to remonstrate against a late order of Council. I have been requested by the Attorney-General for the Eastern District to carry into effect such measures as should appear to be necessary for punishing Gen'l Clarke and others for their conduct at Vincennes last Fall, and make report to him. This direction, I perceive, to be authotized by the order of *Council, of the 28th of February, whereby the Attorney-General is directed to call upon the Att'y-Gen'l of Kentucky, &c.

* It appeared from letters received from Thomas Marshall, Esq'r., by the Executive of Virginia, dated at Danville, Kentucky, that Gen'l Geo. R. Clarke had undertaken, without authority, to raise recruits, nominate officers, and impress

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The honor and Dignity of this District call upon me to disavow such a power, and that is the Executive alone who are to call upon me in cases of this nature, and to them alone am I to make a report. I shall be always happy to receive the counsell and advice of the Att'y-Gen'l of the Eastern District, but never can acknowledge him as my superior. 1787, July 21st

I have the Honor to be your
Exc'y's most obed't Serv't.

CIRCULAR TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA, July 21st

From Charles Thomson, Secretary of Congress, enclosing copy of a Treaty between the U. States and the Emperor of Morocco; ratified on the 18th July, 1787, &c. Office of Secretary of Congress

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MICHAEL JAMES TO LIEUT.-GOV. BEV. RANDOLPH. July 22d

Sir:

The damage the Patriot Received, by loosing Her mast some time ago in the bay, has prevented my geting the Liberty Filled before now, the carpenters being Employed Repairing her. The Liberty could have been fited before this time, but finding her bottom much eat with the worm and I am obliged to a number of planks out of her Bottom, but shall have her fited in ten days at most. We formerly mounted six swivels and maned with ten men, but can accommodate four or five with convenience, and think it necessary to have some more muskets and pistols and cutlasses, as we have two few of them. Hampton

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HUDSON MUSE, NAVAL OFFICER, TO BEV. RANDOLPH, L'T-GOVERNOR, July 23d

In regard to the Returns required of his office. Is aware that almost all the naval officers fail to make out proper reports, and apologises for his, on the ground that when sent he had not received the Instructions from the Executive. Urbanna

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NEGRO SLAVE, July 23d

Tried before the County Court for Burglary, and stealing Bacon to the value of Twenty-Three shillings, condemned to suffer death by hanging, but Pardoned. Southampton county

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provisions in the District of Kentucky, for the defence of the Post at Vincennes, and had, for this purpose, also seized the property of Spanish subjects, contrary to the laws of nations. Clarke was at once notified that his conduct was not only disavowed by the Government of Virginia, but that their displeasure was incurred thereby, and that the Attorney-Gen'l of Kentucky had been instructed to take steps to bring to punishment the offenders. The State of Virginia, by special proclamation of her Governor, was to disavow the acts of Clarke.

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1787. CIRCULAR, ENCLOSING AN ACT OF CONGRESS, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA,

July 25th Office of Secretary of Congress — Limiting the time for the presentation of claims against the U. S. Government, &c.

July 26th — WM. ROSE, KEEPER OF THE PUBLIC JAIL,

Richmond — Notifies the Governor that he has several ill men, but no medicine for them, and desiring an order on some Druggist to deliver me such medicine untill the meeting of the next Gen'l Court, &c. He would wait in person upon his Excellency, but the condemned malefactors having cut off their Irons, he does not think it safe to go from home.

July 26th — COMMISSION OF FRANCIS GOODE, ESQ'R.,

Richmond — As Colonel of militia of Chesterfield Co., granted by Beverly Randolph, Lieut. Governor, &c., the Governor being absent and having previously notified his intention of being absent to the Privy Council, and such intention having been entered on their Journals, &c.

July 27th — CERTAIN ALTERATIONS

In Council — Made in the Instructions to naval officers, &c. Instead of the Invoices being entered *verbatim*, as formerly required, an entry in the book of Invoices describing the particular kind of Goods, the sum total of each person's importation and the duties thereon may suffice, taking care to endorse upon the back of each Invoice, the time of the entry, the amount of the duties, and that they are paid, or secured, to be paid, &c. A form also prescribed, which appears in all Reports found.

July 27th — JOHN JAY TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA,

New York Office for foreign affairs — Enclosing a copy of Signals agreed upon between the United States and the Emperor of Morocco, by which their respective vessels are to be recognized at sea. Vessels going from Virginia to be supplied with copies, &c.

(Copy.)

The following Signals are agreed upon between Commodore Rais Farache, on the part of his Majesty, the Emperor of Morocco, and the Hon'ble Thomas Barclay, Esq., Agent for the United States of America

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on their part, to the End that the Vessels of both Parties may be known to each other at sea. 1787. July 27th

For Vessels of two or three masts :

In the Day a blue Pendant is to be hoisted on the end of the Main Yard, and in the night a Lantern is to be hoisted on the same place.

For Vessels of one mast only :

In the Day a blue Pendant is to be hoisted at the Mast-Head, and in the Night a Lantern is to be hoisted on the Ensign Staff.

Done at Morocco, the ninth Day of the month of Ramadan, in the year one thousand two hundred.

(Signed) RAIS FARACHE,
THOMAS BARCLAY.

BOND OF CHARLES LEE, July 29th

As naval officer for South Potomac District, in the penalty of five thousand pounds, lawful money of the Commonwealth, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LEE and
RICHARD BLAND LEE, &c.

A NEGRO SLAVE, July 30th

Tried by the County Court for Burglary, and Stealing from the house articles valued at £2. 0. 0., condemned and sentenced to suffer death by hanging. Recommended for Executive Clemency, &c. Valued at £75. 0. 0., current money. Brunswick county

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MICHAL JAMES TO BEV. RANDOLPH, ESQ. August 1st

Sir :

I wrote you the first *stage, after my return from Norfolk, Informing you the Situation of the Patriot, and Immediately Employed Mr. Price to get her fited as soon as possable. Mr. Barron informed me she Leaked very much when in the Bay, and when the Carpenters Examined her Bottom, finding it much eat by the worm, which Obliged me to have her Cleaned. Mr. Barron will inform you the condition she was in on his arrival at Richmond. The Liberty will be Ready in Three or four days. The bad weather has Prevented my getting her Ready before this time. Hampton

I am Your H. Ob't Serv't.

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*This word applies here to a variety of coach used in Virginia and elsewhere before the introduction of Railways, and which transported the mails as well as passengers.

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1787. NUMEROUSLY SIGNED PETITION OF INHABITANTS OF DINWIDDIE,

August 3d Prince George and Surry Counties, praying for the Pardon of two Slaves condemned to death for Burglary, and stealing certain pieces of meat and a small quantity of meal, &c. The culprits express great contrition; were induced to perpetrate the crime to satisfy hunger, &c. They promise to be faithful servants in future if they can obtain the favor *many others before have found in the eyes of the Executive*, &c. Among the names appended are Bolling, Banister, Barksdale, Withers, Campbell, Weiseger, Gregory, Eustis, Townes, and others.

August 3d JAS. INNES, ATT'Y-GEN'L TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Richmond In compliance with the Request of the Executive I herewith to you my observations on the Extract of Doctor Stuart's Letter relative to the true meaning and force of the Compact Law between Virginia and Maryland.

The Laws of the State of Virginia, respecting duties and customs, cannot be affected or in any degree suspended by the Compact between this State and Maryland, unless it be by some express Article clearly and explicitly referring to and repealing such Laws.

The object of this Compact seems to extend no farther than to ascertain and designate, on principles of mutuality, the determinate and unequivocal rights which each State should assert and exercise on the waters and appendages of the Potowmacke, which formerly were subject to a mixed and undefined Jurisdiction. The fourth Article of the Compact is the only one which in any manner suspends or repeals any of our Commercial Regulations, and those which are affected by the fourth Article are repealed only so far as they extend to the vessels of Maryland of particular and specified dimensions, and laden with particular and specified cargoes.

Before the passage of the Compact Law, vessels of all dimensions importing any cargoe, of what kind or nature it might be, from any foreign port or place whatsoever (which words by an explanatory Act of the Assembly were made to comprehend the United States of America) were subject to Tonnage and port duties. The natural and plain construction of the fifth article demonstrates that this law, farther than in the instance given, was not intended to introduce any change into the Commercial Regulations of the respective States. By this Article all Commercial vessels, except those already spoken of, which may navigate the potowmacke, are directed to enter in one or both States *according to the Laws of the State in which the Entry shall be made.*

The meaning of this clause is obvious, notwithstanding the last line (from probably a Typographical error) seems a little involved. As com-

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mercial vessels navigating the Potowmacke can with ease trade in either one or both States at their option, therefore under this clause of the Compact Law it is directed that they shall enter, as circumstances shall require, either in one State only, if they confine their trade to one State, or in both States if they extend their trade and derive increased emoluments from the commerce of the two States. 1787. August 3d

And whenever, on account of the Extension of their traffic, it should become necessary to make entries in both States such Entries should be conformable to the Laws of the respective States. Had the words "State and Entry" in the last line been in the plural number, which appears necessary, to give proper force to the sentence of which it is a part, the meaning must have been too plain for scepticism itself to carp at. I trust, however, when the following reasons are attended to, the construction I give the Law will be found to be a just one. It has been observed before that no one of the Regulations of Virginia relating to Customs can be consider'd as repealed by the Compact Law, unless there be some direct and negative clause in the said Law contravening some particular regulation established by the Laws of Virginia.

The fourth article appears to be only part of this Law which has such an operation; it ought to be noted, too, that even that clause has but a partial and defined Energy. The particular forms and modes of Entry required, as well as the precise *Quantum* of Imports assessed by the respective States in consequence of their reserved Sovereignty in such cases, being things extraneous to the object, are left unimpugned by this Law, consequently they remain as they were before the ratification of the Compact. The Laws of Virginia direct that before any nation shall reap the advantages of a Commercial Intercourse with the citizens thereof, certain forms shall be complied with and stipulated duties paid; and that in all cases where these prerequisites are not complied with certain forfeitures ensue. The right of Virginia independantly to regulate her commerce being unquestionable, it cannot be infer'ed that a Licence to trade with the citizens of Maryland, after having complied with the requisites of the Laws of that State, gives a sanction to trade with the citizens of Virginia with't having complied with her requisites also. If Virginia as a Sovereign and independant State, in matters of trade, has a right to enforce the penalties of its Commercial Laws within its own Jurisdiction, and it *possesses* a common Jurisdiction with Maryland *on the River Potowmacke*, it surely follows that if the Laws of Virginia have been violated on the *Potowmacke*, it rightfully *possesses* of enforcing the legal penalties ensuing such violation anywhere within the verge of that River.

But the last clause of the fifth article of the Compact expressly enjoins what, had it omitted, must necessarily have resulted, from reasoning relatively, on the operations of this Law, as it bears reference to the Commercial Regulations of the respective States whose convenience it was meant to accommodate. The words are, "where any vessel shall make an Entry in both States, such vessel shall be subject to Tonnage in each

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1787. August 3d

State only in proportion to the commodities *carried to or taken from such State.*" By this clause, it is plain that a vessel trading with both States must pay, by apportionment, Tonnage to each State; but before Tonnage can be ascertained an Entry of the vessel must be made at the naval office, and the Tonnage-money paid down. It inevitably follows, then, that outer vessels cannot trade with Virginia before Tonnage is paid, and Tonnage cannot be paid before Entry of the vessel—a vessel breaking bulk, and trading before entry, being subject to confiscation by the Laws of this State within the Jurisdiction thereof; and this State having a concurrent Jurisdiction with Maryland, from shore to shore of the Potowmacke, it f'lows as an inevitable consequence, drawn from the Compact itself, that such an offence committed against Virginia on the Potowmacke is anywhere punishable within the Boundaries of that River and the waters thereto appending.

The same principles apply with equal force where Infringements have been made of the clause of the Act of Assembly concerning naval officers and the Collection of Duties, which peremtorily inhibits the Sale of mercantile articles from on Board the vessels which transport them. In cases of such illicit commerce with the citizens of this Commonwealth the goods sold, as well as the vessel from whence they were sold, are subject to condemnation as fully on the waters of the *Potowmacke* as if the offence had been committed within the banks of the *Rappahannock.* As it has been asserted in the course of these observations that the entrance of a vessel navigating the Potowmacke will not under the *Compact* justify an illicit commerce with Virginia, it remains to be considered how far a vessel, after having violated the Commercial Laws of Virginia, shall escape the penal consequences thereof by withdrawing herself to the Maryland shore of the Potowmacke.

The Eleventh article of the Compact must either be considered as a *dead Letter*, or it must be construed as mutually extending the Jurisdiction of the respective States, in the instances therein mention'd, to every part of the confines of the said States, as far as they are washed by the waters of the Potowmacke and Pocomoke Rivers and the Bay of Chesapeake. *The words of this Article are strong and unequivocal, "That any person or property removed, after committing a violation of the Commercial Regulations of either State, may be taken on any part of the Chesapeake Bay, or the Rivers aforesaid, by a process of the State from which such person shall fly, or property be removed."* It having been before established that the Potowmacke is within the Jurisdiction of the State of Virginia, the conclusion which forces itself on the mind respecting the operation of this clause, is too plain to be commented on.

For the reasons above stated, I am humbly of this opinion that, whenever any vessels shall commit an offence on the waters of the Potowmacke against the Commercial Regulation of Virginia, they may be taken, by legal process, from the said State *on any part* of the Rivers Potowmacke and Pocomoke, or of the Bay of Chesapeake, where the Jurisdic-

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tions of the two States are concurrent: *provided*, such vessels be on float, or are lying between high and low water mark; and thus, *vice versa*, with respect to Maryland. 1787. August 3d

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Y'r most ob't Serv't.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY COURT August 7th

In the case of the negro slave Sawney, the property of William Chamberlayne, convicted of having been engaged in burning the Prison and Clerk's Office of that County on the night of the 15th July, 1787, and sentenced to suffer death by hanging. The entire Court, numbering seven magistrates, sign a petition to the Executive recommending the pardon of said Slave. New Kent county

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CHRISTOPHER ROANE, SEARCHER, TO GOV. RANDOLPH, August 7th

Explaining how a package of fruit sent from Philadelphia as a present to a gentleman had been unawares detained by him, altho' it did not appear on the manifest of the *Philadelphia Packet* entering the Custom Office at Norfolk. He regrets that some one of the Council does not go down and inspect the Office under his charge, and he is sure that were this to take place it would be seen then no one man will be able to do the business as the law requires, &c. At the port of City Point there has been about sixty-five vessels discharged their cargoes the last Quarter at that place.

WILL. CLAYTON, CLERK, TO LIEUT.-GOV. RANDOLPH, August 8th

Enclosing an Information, sworn to, concerning the burning of the Prison and clerk's office, &c., to-wit: New Kent county

"The confession of Thomas Green, Labourer, made on the 7th day of August, in the year 1787, and taken before us, the subscribers, magistrates for the County of New Kent. On Sunday, the 15th day of July last past, John Price Posey, came to this Informant's house a little after dark, and requested this Informant to go a little way with him to assist about a particular piece of business he had to do; that Posey brought a horse for this Informant to ride; that they soon after set out down the road toward the Courthouse. After riding a little distance, Posey informed this Informant that he wanted to come and burn the Damn'd Prison down; that they accordingly came to the Prison, the doors of which being open, the said Posey, who had two negroes under his command, ordered them to carry into the said Prison a sufficient quantity of Fence Rails and shingles, in order to consume the same, after which the said Posey apply'd to this Deponent for a Flint, Steel, and Tinder-box to strike and catch Fire with,

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1787. August 8th

which was, by this Deponent, delivered to one of the said negroes, who accordingly struck and caught Fire with the same, which was applied to the Rails and Shingles by the said John Price Posey's directions, by means whereof the said Prison was burnt and consumed. That immediately after this action he, the said John Price Posey, together with this Deponent and the aforesaid two negroes, proceeded back again up the Public Road untill they had arrived near to the clerk's office of the said county, when the said Posey said thar was another Damn'd object that must be destroyed, too, and Damn'd himself if that should not go. Upon which, after coming within about two hundred yards of the said office, a Fire was struck and kindled by and under the direction of the said Posey, which was conveyed to the said office and kindled thereto, by means of which the said office was burnt down and consumed. That the whole of these Transactions were immediately under the direction and at the instigation of the said John Price Posey."

The above and foregoing information was taken before us from Thomas Green, upon a fair and due examination upon oath, and the confession of the contents thereof was made to us and in our presence without coercion, Fee, or reward.

Given under our hands this seventh Day of August, 1787.

WM. H. MACON,
JOS. FOSTER,
SAM'L MARK,
GEO. B. POINDEXTER.

A true copy—Teste:

WILL. CLAYTON,
Cl'k N. K. C.

(Copy.)

August 8th

DAVID ROSS TO MAJ. CHARLES LANGHAM, SUPERINTENDENT AT POINT OF FORK.

Sir:

Point of Fork

As all matters respecting the Ground to be Transferred by me to the Commonwealth is in a fair way to an accommodation, and being unwilling that you should be put to any further trouble respecting the boring mill to be ercected on said land, I give my consent to your raising a dam fourteen or fifteen feet high, and I do hereby, for myself and for my heirs, Ex'ors and adm'rt's, relinquish and forever quit claim to all Right, Title and demand to any satisfaction for the Damage you may do by overflowing my land by the pond occasioned by a dam of the height above-mentioned, and 'tis perfectly agreeable to me that you proceed without the formality and expence of an Inquest.

Given under my hand on the date (Aug. 8th) above-mentioned.

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JOHN NICHOLAS, RD. JAMES, AND WILSON CARY NICHOLAS, 1787.

Having been appointed by the Executive of the State to fix the value of twenty-four acres of land (a plot of which is herewith found) in the County of Fluvanna, upon which the Barracks stand, &c., give their opinion, viz: John Nicholas and R. James estimate its value, including the Spring, as per agreement enclosed, at Two hundred and fifty Pounds current money of Virginia, and Wilson Cary Nicholas at one hundred pounds for the same, &c. August 8th

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JAMES M. MCREA, SEARCHER, TO ——, August 8th

In Regard to the late affair of the Schooner Dart, which, he regrets to say, had escaped, and representing the great difficulties and expence to which he is subjected in the execution of his official duties. Prays on this account for increase of his salary, &c. Alexandria

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COLO. PETER WAGENER TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH, August 9th

Enclosing demand from the authorities of Maryland, a demand for certain ordnance stores borrowed by the State of Virginia, &c., under the following circumstances: Fairfax county

"In the year 1781, when the British vessels were cruising up and down Potomack, I borrowed from the State of Maryland three pieces of cannon with some military stores for the defence of the Town of Alexandria, having at that time received orders from the Executive to put the Town in as good defence as possible. Colo. Hooe being well acquainted with the Governor of Maryland, I prevailed on him to write for the cannon, &c., and hired waggons to go to Anapolis for them. They are now applied for as by the inclosed Letter and List from Governor Smallwood to Colo. Hooe. The cannon is at Alexandria. Most of the powder was expended by the militia at different times when on duty. The remainder, with the other articles, was often moved from house to house in Town, and now, upon inquiry, are not to be found. Your Excellency will please to direct in what manner the cannon is to be sent to Anapolis and the powder, &c., to be replaced."

I have the honor to be your
Excellency's most obed't Serv't.

A. BLAIR TO COL. WM. HETH, August 10th

In Regard to western accounts, Bills, &c., drawn by G. R. Clark and others. He cannot furnish from his office any information concerning them, in as much as *the books for 1779 and 1780 were all destroyed by the Enemy.*

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1787. LEIGHTON WOOD, J'N'R,

August 11th Richmond Solicitor's office — Makes report of state of certain Foreign claimants' accounts, with remarks, &c., &c.

August 12th SAMU'L KELLO TO LIEUT.-GOV. BEV. RANDOLPH,

Southampton county, Round Hill — Interceding for a slave, the property of Mr. Miles Cary, of that County, under sentence of death for having entered a meat-house and stolen therefrom thirty-five pounds of bacon. After stating the circumstances of the case, his confidence in the Court, *one of whom was a clergyman*, and expressing Mr. Cary's anxiety in regard to his slave, he proceeds: "But waving every other circumstance, as the theft is only a trifling one of 35 lbs. bacon, I have some hope you will step in between the sentence and execution of our rigorous, I had allmost said unjust, Laws. For the sake of humanity I cou'd wish something short of Death was substituted for small crimes, and for our reputation among nations I cou'd wish, too, that the trial of slaves was still further amended, and that pregnant circumstances, as our Law calls them, *might not be permitted to condemn a black man more than a white one.* As this fellow of Mr. Cary's has not a very good character, and there is the utmost probability of his being guilty of the theft laid to his charge, I have Mr. Carey's promise, and will pledge myself for the performance of it, to transport him to some of the West India islands on his being taken from prison.

I am persuaded, if I have not forgot your character since our youthful acquaintance, that you will not think your time misapplied in performing this act of humanity.

I am, sir, with respect and esteem,

Your most ob't, humble Serv't, &c.

August 12th CAPT. RICHARD TAYLOR TO LIEUT.-GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Hampton — The Boat *Patriot only got to Norfolk with Colo. Stark's family on Friday last, having a very tedious passage Down, being cheifly becalm'd. I am sorry to inform you that the carpenter only finished his work on board the Liberty last night. * * * *

I have thought it best to Despatch Mr. Barron of with the Liberty† to potowmack. He will leave this on Teusday at farthest, at which time I

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*This vessel at this time mounted 8 swivels on carriages; had 9 muskets, and 6 pistols, with powder-horns, flints, cutlasses, &c., with the usual cabin, cook and carpenter's stores.

†The Liberty mounted 6 swivels, had 9 muskets and 3 bayonets, six pistols and five cutlasses. Both carried hour-glasses instead of clocks.

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shall go out with the Patriot about the Bay and Eastern Shore. The 20th of the month Colo. Stark has order'd the Patriot to meet him at Norfolk to take him to the Eastern Shore Offices. Inclos'd I send you an Inventory of the tackle and stores belonging to Each Boat. They are Both Badly found, and sails and Rigging much wore, &c. You will see there is very little salt provisions on hand, and no Biscuit. I am very anxious to get the liberty of to her Station and to get out into the Bay with the Patriot myself, &c. * * * * * *

1787. August 12th

I have the Honour, Sir, to be
Y'r most Obed't Serv't.

JAMES BRYANS August 14th

Required by the Court to pay a fine of Five pounds, and be charged with trible taxes for failing to make proper return of his taxable property, real and personal, &c.

Rockbridge county

B. STARK TO LIEUT.-GOV. BEV. RANDOLPH, August 14th

Informing him of his having hired a vessel in which to transport to Richmond the 12 cases of cartridge boxes so long stored at Portsmouth, together with 100 barrels of powder and 100 reams of cartridge paper arriv'd a few days ago from France in the Comte D' artois. * * The freight is enormous, but as it was fixed by the State Agent it must be submitted to, to-wit: 23 Ton measure at 60 Livres p'r Ton, &c. The Liberty had gone up to Potomack on that morning.

Norfolk

ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. EDMUND RANDOLPH, OF VA., August 16th

Enclosing an extract of a letter from Capt. Nevill in regard to the movements of the Cherokee Indians under one Alexander McGillivray. He is just informed that this villiane had already marched at the head of Seven hundred Indians and Tories to attack the Southern Settlements of Kentucky and the settlement in No. Carolina called Cumberland. He has also negotiated a peace with Georgia, only that he may return and attack that State should his present expedition be successful.

Washington county

EXTRACT OF A LETTER

From a Gentleman now in the Cherokee Country to his friend in Virginia, dated Aug't 2d, 1787:

"Through a channel that may be credited, I am informed that Alexander McGillivray is using his utmost exertions to engage the Creek In-

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1787. dians in a War not only with Georgia but the Western parts of Virginia
August 16th and No. Carolina. He has said to some of his friends that his object is to make the war as hot as possible at first, which will induce overtures for peace, and make the United States be glad to grant advantageous terms, such as to acknowledge the independence and sovereignty of the Creek nation, and admit them as a member of the federal Union.

"A great number of Tories and other White desperadoes have taken refuge in the Creek Country. McGillivray was a noted one, but has lately ingratiated himself into the good graces of the Spanish Commandant at Mobile; is now agent for His Catholic majesty in the Creek nation, and a Colo. in the Spanish pay, and of late has usurped the regal authority over the Indians. McGillivray seems to be possessed of abilities; has an insatiable ambition for honor and being aggrandized, and may not be much inferior to Hyder Ally had he the same opportunity.

"Upon the whole, there is reason to beleive that the whole is a plan of the Court of Spain to curtail the United States of part of their territory. If that be the case, there cannot be too great care taken to disconcert them. If the Creek nation was well humbled, and the nest of Tories that is settled among them routed and drove out of the Country I think we might have a lasting peace; otherwise, we may expect that the longer it is delayed our enemies will become more numerous and formidable."

August 21st RICHARD WHELIN, KEEPER OF THE MAGAZINE,

Gives receipt to Capt. Cunningham for one hundred barrels of Gunpowder, one Hundred reams of Cartridge paper, and Twelve large Boxes, containing Cartridge Boxes, Belts, &c.

August 22d SUNDRY REGISTERS OF VESSELS,

Of different sizes, &c., built at Gloster, in Virginia, &c.

August 24th RECORD IN THE CASE OF A NEGRO SLAVE,

Philadelphia The property of Stephen Tancard, of Norfolk, Va., who had gone off with the Hessians during the Revolution, was sold by a Capt. Little to Samuel Hines, of St. Croix, in the West Indias, and having been hired by Capt. Barton to work on board his vessel, trading to Philadelphia from that Port, ran away from the latter while his vessel was going up the river to Philadelphia. The same negro, under the name of Thomas Willaims, was subsequently tried and convicted of having committed Burglary and theft in Philadelphia, and sentenced to seven years' hard labor. In the in-

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dictment he is described as a yoeman. Upon demand being made by Sam'l Hines upon the Captain of the vessel for the value of his slave, the latter enters a petition to the authorities of Pennsylvania for protection against loss, he being responsible to Hines for the return of slave or his value in gold at St. Croix, estimated at two hundred Spanish milled Dollars, &c. 1787. August 24th

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A NEGRO SLAVE, August 24th

Tried and convicted and sentenced to suffer death by hanging, for the crime of burglary and theft, to the amount of fifteen shillings, &c., Recommended by the Justices for pardon, &c. Fluvanna county

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JAS. M. MCREA TO HON. BEV. RANDOLPH, August 24th

Enclosing certain depositions, showing how the supposed informants in the case of the schooner Dart had been maltreated by disguised and armed sailors. One of the sufferers, David Motley, testified that while walking in the suburbs of Alexandria at night, he said aloud, *Huzza for the Orange and blue,*" alluding to the *Colours of the Pensylvania line.* in which he served in the late war, &c. It was proven also that Colo. Hooe gave countenance to the resistance of the Capt. and crew of the Dart when the attempt to seize her under the law was made, and that he used the words, "*Knock the Damn'd Imperious Raskal down and don't suffer him to make Seizure, &c.*" Alexandria

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ALEX. BARNETT, CO. LIEUT., TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH, August 29th

Since his last communication the Indians had again attacked the frontier on the ninth of July last, and killed the wife of John Carter and six childring, plundered his house and then set fire to it, consuming the seven corps to ashes. As soon as information of this disaster reached him he ordered out a party of men as Rangers, but to no purpose; they had made good their retreat. Such visits may be constantly expected unless measures are taken to station men at intervals along the thickly settled frontier, to give warning of the approach of the Indians. Unless this or some other step be taken, the continual destruction of the crops and the insecure state of the people will cause the country to be evacuated. If authorized to do so, he can with a company of Twenty men at a time, provided with ready-prepared food, to be levied upon the people and paid for afterwards, keep the country protected. This will be better accomplished if the men be assured of their pay and the people a fair price for their provisions. He finds it impossible to send correct returns of the militia, Russell county

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1787. August 29th — from the impossibility of getting them all together at the muster. Especially is this the case in the Spring, when the men must remain at home to prepare for their crops and protect their families, then considered most in danger. Sends a Recommendation for Sheriff. Trusts his Excellency will reply at once, and consider the wants of that country, &c.

August 30th — WILLIS WILSON TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Surry county — Defending himself against the malicious information lodged against him by a certain Wil. Boyce, of Surry, who accused him of having violated the Revenue Law while acting Sheriff of the county. He collected the revenue of 1783, paid into the Treasury many pounds of Silver and Gold, which he did not receive of the people for their Rev. tax, but for their levies and cl'k's tickets, which he conceived to be contrary to the letter, but surely not to the Spirit and meaning of that law. He had done this to avoid the Judgments hanging over him, and to prevent the sale of his own personal property and that of his sureties. Money thus raised would not be money paid by the people for taxes. He had, by paying in the money, been enabled to indulge the people rather than sell their effects, and take the beds from under them. He proceeds to give the reasons why Boyce desires to blast his own and the character of Colo. Richard Cocke, and shows how Boyce, when made sheriff, went about getting signatures to his complaint against him under threats of forcing the prompt collection of dues from the people, many of whom had apologized to him afterwards when the facts of the complaints were explained, &c. After referring to Carter B. Harrison, Esq'r., who could satisfy any enquiry as to how he had conducted the business of his office, he draws attention to the doubtful conduct of Boyce while acting as overseer for Sir Peyton Skipwith, and how he was known to have so maltreated a slave as to cause his death in the year 1786. On this occasion he was tried, but not convicted of the crime; and the people were so indignant that the magistrates had allowed a man to run at large amongst them that deserved hanging, that Colo. John Cocke, upon consultation with him (Wilson), procured another warrant for his arrest, which resulted in a new trial. Boyce was, however, again cleared for want of evidence. This he insists forms the ground of Boyce's pique against Colo. Cocke and himself.

September 1st — HENRY BANKS TO GOV. EDMUND RANDOLPH.

Sir:

The Commotion among the people of this *County has totally subsided. The leaders have made a voluntary renunciation of their objects, and submitted to the Court, who, after receiving the Concessions, have

*Greenbrier county.

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dismissed them. The apprehension which they had will ensure future peace in this quarter. Nothing is now talked of but submission to Law and Order, and the proof is strong, as the principal, a Mr. Mathews, is now in Custody for Debt. I give this Intelligence as a thing that will not be unpleasing, 1787. September 1st

And have the Honor to be your mo. H'ble.

BOND OF GEORGE OLDHAM September 1st

In the penalty of One thousand dollars in Specie, he being commissioned Searcher for the District aforesaid, &c. Onancock, Accomac

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JAMES INNES, ATTORNEY-GENERAL, TO GOV. RANDOLPH. September 1st

Sir:

On reviewing my Letter to the Executive, of the twenty-sixth of June last, I find I have fallen into an Error, which I take this opportunity of correcting. When I advised that the Inspectors of Byrd's, Shockoe, Manchester, Rocky Ridge, and Rockett's Warehouses should collect and account for the duties accruing from the Tobaccos in the upper Warehouses, I was in part erronious. The Inspectors of the Warehouses above the Falls are entitled to collect all the duties arising on Tobacco inspected at their respective Warehouses, except the augmented duty imposed by an Act of the last Session of Assembly for the use of Congress. The reasons which induce me to think that the Inspectors at the upper Warehouses cannot collect the last additional duty of six shillings, are these: Because the act of exporting or shipping the Tob'o, which must happen at the time the duty is demanded, cannot take place at the upper Warehouses. The Inspectors above, by the act for Establishing certain Inspections, are to deliver the Tobacco from the respective Warehouses for *transportation*, but this Tobacco is to be delivered at the lower Warehouses, to-wit: Byrd's, &c., and by them to be redelivered for Exportation when required.

Now as the Tobacco cannot be delivered for exportation by the Inspectors above, it follows that they cannot demand the additional duty, which is only demandable on the delivery of the Tobacco for *exportation*. It may be supposed from the words used in the Act of the last Session—passed at and shipped from—that the additional duty laid by that Act is demandable at the Warehouses where the Tobacco is inspected. But when it is noted that two acts are requisite by law, and both of which must happen previous to the accruing of the duty, and that but one of these can take place at the upper Warehouses, the Error of such an Opinion must be obvious.

I have the honor to be, &c.

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1787. GOV. EDMUND RANDOLPH TO THE LIEUT.-GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

September 2d Philadelphia

In a former letter I requested you to inform me concerning the disturbances said to prevail in Greenbriar. Since I wrote, a private correspondent has represented to me that commotions are rising in some other important counties. I must therefore repeat my intreaty to you for a particular detail on this subject, as I shall not consider myself as authorized to remain here longer than I can prepare for my return, if the confusions be truly stated. I expect to leave this place on Saturday, Seven night.

I have the honor, Sir, to be,

With great respect and esteem,

Y'r mo. ob. Serv't.

September 3d Essex county

SPENCER ROANE TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

Remote as I am from the seat of public Business, and divested of every public Occupation, I, nevertheless, hold it my Duty, as a citizen anxious for the Prosperity of my Country, to give your Excellency and hon'ble Council any Information which may come within my knowledge touching a matter of public concern. Under this Impression, and from the solicitation of a number of respectable citizens in this county, I have taken the liberty to address you respecting a nomination of magistrates made by the Court of Essex County at their last session. As it is probable that the Recommendation af's'd has, before this, reached the Council, I will content myself now, and those whose sentiments I convey, by declaring that, *in one instance*, the said Recommendation is extremely dissatisfactory to a number of the best people in this part of the country. I mean in that the Court have recommended Mes. Smith and Rob't Beverly, Esq'r's, *to be reinstated* as they stood in the commission of the Peace before the war.

With respect to the first of these gentlemen, little objection is made to his being reinstated, for he lost his seat as a magistrate by being *elsewhere* engaged in the public service. But against the reinstating Robert Beverly, Esq'r., or even *admitting* him to the magistracy at all, there are, I humbly conceive, numberless and insurmountable objections.

1st. That Gentleman, being freely and honorably chosen a committeeman for Essex at the beginning of the late war, refused to act, and was soon after, his sentiments becoming known, *disarmed* by the Committee of Essex for being a Tory.

2d. He was summoned, by order of the Court of Essex, during the war, to take his seat as a magistrate, but refused, declaring that he never would act in any public Business so long as the war continued.

3d. He was once, in the Infatuation of the County of Essex, during the war, elected a Delegate in the most honorable manner, *i. e.*, without offer-

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ing himself a candidate or being present, whereupon he had thoughts of going to the Assembly and made preparations for his journey, but hearing of the Capture of Charles Town (Charleston) he stopped short and never went from home. 1787. September 3d

4th. He associated during the war *only* with men of sentiments notoriously inimical to the cause of America, and avowed, as I have been oftentimes informed, his sentiments to be of the like sort.

5th. He always has been, and, as I am credibly informed, *still is*, averse to our present Government.

6th. He absented himself from his parish church upon the alterations being made in the Liturgy and Service in Favor of the Congress, &c., and never, as I am informed, appeared there afterwards until the end of the war.

7th. There is a suit now depending ag'st him in the County Court of Essex by a poor man, who was obliged to sell the *only* negro he had to pay a substitute enlisted by Him as recruiting officer to a Division during the war. Mr. Beverly, whose property constituted a great part of the Division, taking advantage of this man's inattention to the Law, which required that the monies for Enlistment sh'd *be actually deposited* with the recruiting officer, altho' this man had actually applied to Mr. Beverly for his quota, and being for the present put off, enlisted a man, nevertheless, on his own credit, and relied on Mr. Beverly's Honor and assumpsit for reimbursement at a future day. This I know to be the Truth.

8th. He refused toasting Gen'l Washington and the American army during the war; this, I beleive, can be proved.

These, may, it please your Excellency, *are some* of the objections which exist against this gentleman. I can, if your hon'ble Body sh'd require it, and furnish authority for the purpose of procuring Testimony, substantiate *all*, or at least the greater part, of the charges above mentioned, and, perhaps, many others equally cogent might, upon scrutiny, be added. But I humbly conceive that a Regard to former Precedents, and particularly the Case of the *Middlesex Recommendations*, which was not so strong a case as the present, and must be still recent in the minds of the hon'ble Council. A Regard to the general and notorious character of Mr. Beverly, independent of any particular charges, but, above all a Regard to the soundest Policy, which directs that those who have distinguished themselves as Friends, *not as enemies*, to their country, should *only* be preëminently rewarded, will, at the present view, dictate to the Hon'ble Executive the Decision proper to be given. I declare, most solemnly, that my Interference herein arises from no private motive whatever. It is such an Interference as my conscience would suggest to me against *any man* under like circumstances, and such an one as I humbly trust y'r Excellency and Honors will not deem improper or unbecoming in me or in any private citizen whatever.

Give me leave now to account for this *apparently unaccountable* Recommendation of Essex Court. The Court, at the Time of this Recommenda-

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1787. September 3d

tion, consisted *almost entirely* of junior magistrates, whose Feelings, consequently, could not be affected by this intended Elevation of the two Gentlemen. The *only senior magistrates present* were Jas. Edmundson and John Upshaw. Upshaw is Judge of the Court, and, consequently, will not be affected by the reinstatement, and, I believe, was opposed to the measure, so far as respected Mr. Beverly. Edmundson was exceedingly exasperated at the vote of the Court; declared in open Court his Feelings and *his Rights* greviously affected, and resolved that, unless y'r hon'ble Board should redress him, never more to act as a magistrate. Of the junior magistrates who composed this Court, were *Newman* and *John Brockenbro*, both esteemed to be disaffected to the cause and Government of America, William Ritchie, who was in Britain and the British Islands all the war, and William Waring and Wm. Latane.

Thus, sir, has the Business been accomplished. I can venture to affirm against the opinion of a very large majority of the *good people* of this County, and, I believe, ag'st the opinion *of even* a full Court itself.

Far be it from me to say that it is wise to keep up Hostilities at this Day *even* against those who have *disgraced* themselves by an opposition to their native Country; but surely wise Policy will forbid that the sacred Deposit of magistracy should be given to such characters. Office will always add Weight and consequence to men; and there is no knowing what *even a Justice of Peace may do* in injuring that Government which he notoriously dislikes and abhors. But if after all y'r hon'ble Body should think these considerations of small Weight, as *it is possible* you may, surely you can never think it right to give such characters just cause of Triumph by *hoisting* them above virtuous and patriotic magistrates. And in this case I have authority to say that the intended Elevation was *at the special* Instance of Mr. Beverly. Thereby to gain a Triumph over the Whigs, and to get, as it were, an *act of oblivion* for all his past conduct; as if, too, a magistrate, whose Veiw is to serve his Country, cannot as well do it at one End of the Bench of Justice as at another.

If, in the present Instance, I have spoken freely of the characters of individuals, I trust it will be excused, because it is only as regarding their *public principles*, and because it seemed to me indispensably necessary to give y'r Excellency proper Information on the Subject of this Address. But what I have here said I beleive I can prove; nor have I any objection (if it were necessary) that it should be made public.

I am, with great Respect,

Y'r Excellency's mo. ob't and h'ble Serv't.

P. S.—One of the Senior magistrates, whom I have seen, and who thinks his *Rights* affected by the Recom'n above ment'd, *is among* the number of those who have applied to me to State this business to the Executive. Perhaps it is needless to observe that the *office* of sheriff, *the only Reward* for *Long Services* as a magistrate, will be affected by such a Reinstatement as the Recom'n w'd accomplish. S. R.

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JOHN GRAMMAR, CLERK OF THE HUSTINGS COURT, 1787.

Certifies that James Strange had qualified before him as a citizen of Virginia by taking the oath of fidelity to the Commonwealth of Va. September Petersburg, Va

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PETITION OF ONE MCKENZIE, September 7th

To be releived of sentence of fine and imprisonment for having aided in the escape of a man who was Sentenced by the Worshipfull Court to be put in the Stocks for Fighting in the presents of the magistrates, &c. Albemarle county

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CAPT. RICHARD TAYLOR TO GOV. RANDOLPH, September 7th

Giving account of the dilapidated condition of the State Boats, Patriot and Liberty, and the bad state of the few provisions on hand. The Liberty had just returned from her station in potomack, and is off again. He thinks it will be necessary to examine the Patriot as to her soundness. Capt. James had not been able to do any duty for some time, which has kept him continually on board the Patriot. Capt. Barron still in the Liberty. Norfolk

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ALEXANDER DROMGOOLE TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH. September 15th

Sir:

This is to inform you that I delivered your Letter to the King of the Cherokee nation with the present of the Silver Pipe you Delivered to me in Philadelphia, which seamed to please them Better than any Present they Received. I sent for the Chickemauges to Attend the talk, which some of them did, and after hearing your letter Read, and the Talk I gave them, one of them made a speech, which I have sent on with this letter. The letter they received by me has Given Generall Sattissfaction to the nation, and I have the greatest Reason to suppose that the Chickemauges will Quite doing Any Mischeife on the Kentuckey Country for the futer, or Cumberland, as they have promised me faithfully it is their Sincear Disire to be for piece, and on that I delivered them a Stand of Colours and one Drum, which was sent for the upper Towns, and the thirteen United States colours is now flying in Chickemauga, which is the first of the sort was Ever Raised in that nation. I have Inclosed you a Receipt for the Delivery of the pipe sent by me. Closes with an application for the Superintendency at this nation, should such an appointment be made. Jonesborough

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1787. THE INDIAN TALKS REFERRED TO.

My White Elder Brother:

September 15th I look upon the Beloved men of Chota to be my Elder Brother as well as you. This day we have heard the Good talks and smoaked out of your pipe, and my young warriers was pleased from their hearts to heare such good Talk from you. They are glad to heare the good Talks, and they will keep in their hearts as long as they live; our young warriers of All our nation looks upon Chota as their Beloved Town, whare the fire of Piece is Always Kept Burning. We will always keep the good talks we Received from the beloved men, that our Children may Grow up in piece and live in piece; and the good talk you sent us, that the path should not Grow up with Briers and thorns, but be kept clear by you and your young warriers, and our young warriers will Also Assist to Keep it clear on our End of the path. We are all proud and happy in our minds Receiving such good Talks.

Brother, I am in hopes you will Listen well to what I am going to say: When you ware oppressed by your Enemies, the French and Indians; when you was weak you sent in the war-hoop [whoop] for me to Assist you, which I did with my young warriers, and helped to subdue your Enemies, which you should not forget, tho' it is a Long time ago. I am in hopes you will forward this letter to Congress, that they may all hear this, as I make no doubt there is some thare Remembers this well; so if it is in their power to help us now, not to put my Talks to one side; and I am in hopes you will heare this Talk good, and Congress also; and you must Remember the Time well when we went hand in hand Against our Enemies Towards the Ohio, and took Fort Pitt; and I am in hopes you ha'n't forgot that what I have been saying here is to put you in mind we were willing to help you in Distress, but now we wish to live in piece; but as there is Other nations of Indians that may be at variance with you; but we hope thro' your wisdom to make piece with all nations, that they may live in piece and happiness as we wish to do.

Brother, I am in hopes you and Congress Boath will heare this talk and not throw it aside, that my young people may Grow up in Piece and Increase.

This Talk from halfe-Breed Abraham and the young Warriers of the Cherokee nation.

ABRAHAM OF CHILHAWAH.

Cherokee nation, 8th Sept., 1787.

ANOTHER TALK.

Brother:

This day I have heard the good Talks with our Beloved men in Chota. I am one of the Chickamauga Cheifes. Last Spring I sent good

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talks to Cumberland to let them know me and my people was for piece. And another Talk by the way of Holston, to be sent to Kentucky and Cumberland, which I am not certain whether they Received them or not. But when I came to Chota I heard the Good Talks Read that Mr. Alexander Dromgoole Brought from Congress, and also your Letter to our Great King with a present of a Silver Pipe, which I have now in my hand and is smoaking out of it in piece. After hearing the Good Talks Mr. Alexander Dromgoole gave me concearning you and our nation, and after smoaking out of the pipe sent by you to the king of our nation, my heart was glad, and the sun shined very clear towards you and your people. 1787 September 15th

Brother, it makes me very glad to heare the good Talks you sent to the Great King and Beloved men and warriers of the upper Towns. I have but very little to say at present myselfe, but am in hopes when we heare from you Again I shall have a good deal more to say. I am now in the same way of thinking as my Brothers, the upper Towns, who is in Friendship with you, and I am in hopes you will consider us as such, and Remain, Brother, your friend and, &c.

ALLEKIESKEE,
A Cheife of the Chickemogeys.

MOSES PRICE, Linkester.
Chota, 8th Sept., 1878.

RECEIPT, &C

Rec'd this 3d Sept., 1787, of Alexander Dromgoole a silver pipe, sent by the gover'or of Virginia to me.

Given under my hand, in Chota, the day and date above written.

KAALLAHA, or CORN TASSEL.

Witness Present: MOSES PRICE,
RICHARD FIELDS.

EDMUND RANDOLPH TO LIEUT.-GOV. BEV. RANDOLPH. September 18th

Sir:

I do myself the honor of forwarding to the exceutive a *copy of the national constitution. Altho' the names of Colo. Mason and myself are not subscribed, it is not, therefore, to be concluded that we are opposed to its adoption. Our reasons for not subscribing will be better explained at large, and on a personal interview, than by letter. Philadelphia

I have the honor, sir, to be, with great respect,
y'r mo. ob. Serv't.

The indisposition of Mrs. Randolph will detain me here until Saturday.

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*Not found.

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1787. COL. BENJ. LOGAN TO GOV. EDM'D RANDOLPH, OF VIRGINIA.

May it Please your Excellency:

September 24th Lincoln county Kentucky

You will find inclosed the proceedings of a board of officers convened agreeable to your Order of Counsel. No military operations have taken place since in this District, only Guards on the Frontiers in the different Counties. The Shawanies have Exchanged for there Prisoners, all but ten. I mett them at Limestone, where the professed a great deal of friendship, but I fear it was only a deception. The Southern Indians have been discovered by their shooting on the Road through the wilderness, but finding no opportunity to suit them, the have come in the settlement of Lincoln, near the Road, and killed five persons, and took two prisoners out of one family. These Indiens are certainly Chekomagies, and I hope to pay them a visit this Fall. I Received a letter from your Honourable Board Requesting to obtain a Female Indien, the age of ten or twelve years, from a certain William Whitesides. I found the man, but, from the best intelligence, he brought no such Indien to Kentuckey.

I am your Excellency's most ob't and Humble Serv't

THE PROCEEDINGS REFERRED TO.

DANVILLE, July 19th, 1787.

At a meeting of the Commanding officers of the different counties composing the District of Kentucky—

Present: Benjamin Logan, for the County of Lincoln.
James Garrard, for the County of Bourbon.
Alex'r S. Bullitt, for the County of Jefferson.
Gabriel Maddison, for the County of Mercer.
Levi Todd, for the County of Fayette.
James Barnett, for the County of Maddison.

Taking into serious consideration the depredations of the Indians on the different parts of the Kentucky District, and also of the Instructions of the Executive, dated the 5th day of June, 1787, we are of opinion that by prohibiting us from going out of the State, unless in actual and Immediate pursuit of an Invading Enemy, they have placed us in so critical a Situation as to oblige us to decline all offensive operations at present. We are, therefore, of opinion that the detachments of militia that have already been called into Service by the different commanding officers of Counties be continued for the defence of the District, and that a commissary be appointed in each County to purchase Provisions for their support, and if

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they cannot be had by purchase, to procure It by Impressment under the militia law, passed in 1785 and 1786, &c. * * * * We are also of opinion that upon any application from two or more of the Commanding Officers of Counties to Colo. Benjamin Logan, before the meeting of the next General Assembly, he be authorized and requested, upon any Invasion, to call a meeting of the whole. 1787. September 24th

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"THE INDEPENDENT CHRONICLE" September 26th

Was printed and published at this date by Augustine Davis. Richmond

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Circular.. September 28th

CHAS. THOMSON, SEC'Y, TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

In obedience to an unanimous resolution of the United States in Congress Assembled, a *copy of which is annexed, I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency the *Report of the Convention lately assembled in Philadelphia, together with the *resolutions and Letter accompanying the same, and have to request that your Excellency will be pleased to lay the same before your Legislature, in order that it may be submitted to a Convention of Delegates, to be chosen by the people of the State, in conformity to the Resolves of the Convention made and provided in that case. Office of the Secretary of Congress

With the greatest respect, I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most hum. Serv't.

CERTIFICATE MADE UNDER OATH, October 2d

That a Grand jury man had been prevented from attending upon the summons of the General Court at Richmond in April, 1786, on account of a storm of hail, rain and snow, he residing twenty miles away in Goochland Co. Henrico county

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THOS. MERIWETHER October 4th

Reports the condition of the Post at Point of Fork, viz: Mr. Langham's, the Superintendant's Pay-rolls and Quarterly Returns compared with his vouchers and found correct. A Ballance of £125. 10. 5., due to the Superintendant and Artificers. It appears that an Ox died in the last quar- Richmond

*None of these found.

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1787. October 4th ter; replaced by purchase. Mr. McDonald, the contractor, solicits a sum of money in advance, to enable him to lay in the winter stock of provisions at once. The contractor, Saml. Colber, desires £20 on account, for building a Boring Mill as p'r agreem't. An estimate of forage made for the ensuing year. Two old negroes, under the care of the Superintendent, and entirely useless, and the old stock of Gunpowder recommended to be sold, the proceeds to be applied to the contingent demands.

October 8th

JOSEPH MOORE TO GOV. RANDOLPH, PER GOV. HENRY.

Sir:

Prince Edward county

About the year 1778, or 1779, I am not certain as to the exact time, a certain Thomas Stewart was going down the Tennissee River to the Kentucky Country. He was surprized by the Cherokee Indians. He and his wife and youngest child were killed. He had two little Sons; they, with the negroes, were taken Prisoners. What other property they had were taken also.

Sometime before Colo. Brown, the British Commander in Georgia, was taken (at Augusta), he sent out and reclaimed all prisoners in the Towns near to that State. There the youngest boy was carried. In the year 1783 I went to Georgia, and there found him, and sent him in ——. In the year 1781, October, I became acquainted with Colo. Josiah Martin, our Superintendant. It was he informed me of the boy's being in Georgia. He promist me at the same time to do his utmost to reclaim the Son and the negroes that was then in the nation. He was acquainted with Stewart and his family; knew the negroes and the Indian that claimed them. The winter following Colo. Martin sent me the other son by one Rogers, an Indian Trader, that was going to Petersburg. * * His effort is now to recover the negroes, which could have been done when the Son was returned, but for hostile movements against the Indians by Carolina. He now hears they are still in the Indian nation, and having a list of their names, he requests the Governor to give Colo. Martin orders to demand them in the name of Virginia, and he himself will defray the expences incident to sending them within the Inhabitants, &c.

October 8th

GEO. ROGERS CLARKE TO GOV. RANDOLPH OF VA.

Sir:

Louisville, Kentucky

A few days past Colo. Logain gave me the perusial of a letter of yours to him on the Subject of the Western Ac'ts, wherein you desire him to collect all the Books and paper he could to assist in a Settlement with the United States, and, if possible, to Mr. W. Clarke to attend you with them, to cast what light he could on the Subject. I can assure you, Sir, that the whole of the papers belonging to the Dep't (Some Duplicates only Excepted) was Deliver'd to the Commissioners, and I beleive by

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them Lodged in the Auditor's Office. I have spoke to Mr. Clark on the Subject; he declines undertaking ye business, as it is impossible for him or the present Commissioner to Elucidate them, as those of Kentucky and ye Illinois are blended together. I know of no other method that you Could adopt to get the business tolerably Executed but that of being at the Expense of Sending the whole of the papers to this place, whare there is the only persons living that can cast any light on them. When I reflect on those Acts, and the great Expense that hath already and likely to attend the Settlement of them and the Various Circumstances attending the Reduction and Defence of those Co'ntries and all its great consequences, it then appears more obvious to me what mischeif false informers, Invious, Lucrative and Melitious persons have in their power to do a country when lestined to, and at a great distance, form the seat of government. To such lengths hath it been carried respecting this countrey, that, in order to save it in the year 1782, we were obblidged to lay aside all attention to Instructions, and act discretionary, which answered the salutary purpose. We dared to do this, as the Salvation of the Country was of more importance to us than the Commissions we bore, and when all the Expenses attending ye numerous Indian Treaties and the support of an active war for Seven years shall have been reduced to specie, it will be found, if I am not mistaken, to amount to a less sum than has been already Spent on this Communication Sence the war, owing to our frugal manner of living and the want of almost every necessary. After suffering the fatigues that I have undergone, bearing so many malignant pens' fraying, and yet have to pay Large Sums of money for Supplys that the State could not get credit for, persons might reasonably suppose that, of course, I must be unhappy. The Reverse hath taken place. Contious of having done everything in the power of a person under my Circumstances, not only for the defence of the Country, but to save every Expense possible, I can with pleasure View Countries flourishing that I have Stained with the Blood of its Enimies, pitying mine when I deign to think of them as Citizens; otherways with the utmost Contempt, as it is impossible I can have any Except those under the description alluded to.

I am y'r Excellencie's Humble Serv't.

1787. October 8th

J. BROWN TO THE GOVERNOR, October 8th

Giving results of his enquiries into the cost of renting a house for his office, conveniently situated to the *Courthouse, &c. He can get one upon better terms than those agreed upon with Messrs. Cohen & Isaacs. The house occupied by Mrs. Lowell can be rented for £30 specie a year; it has six rooms. The house now occupied by Mr. Beckley may be had

Richmond

*This building stood upon the site of that now used as the County Courthouse of Henrico.

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1787. for £40 specie a year; it has four rooms. Several other houses of same
October 8th size, with one or more fire-places, can be had at the same rates.

As he intends to resign the offices of clerk to the Court of Appeals and Court of Chancery at their next terms, he desires Directions from the Executive as to procuring a house separate from that in which the General Court office is kept, &c.

October 10th — JOSEPH HORNSBY

Williamsburg — Encloses to the Governor a copy of the order of the Court of Directors of the Hospital for Lunaticks for six hundred pounds, and requests the Auditor's warrant for the same.

October 14th — CAPT. RICH'D TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR,

Hampton — In relation to the condition of the Boat Patriot. Many persons feared she would be condemned were she subjected to official Inspection. But lately while he was having her bottom scrubbed, a carpenter was ordered to rip up her ceiling and examine her timbers. These were of red oak and young pine, but were quite sound. When he goes to Richmond he will make full report of the condition of the State Boats. The Liberty is still on her station in potomack. He has not detected any attempt at a violation of the Customs, except a supposed attempt of a schooner from Philadelphia to run up James River without coming too. This, however, was not the Captain's fault. It was done by the Pilot without his orders. He has on hand some old, useless rigging, belonging to the Boats, which should be sold, but this cannot be done without authority from the Executive.

October 15th — THE OFFICE OF SEARCHER FOR BERMUDA HUNDRED

Having become vacant by the resignation of James Warren, Benj. Harrison, of Berkley, and John Tyler of Greenway, and John Pleasants, recommended for that office Mr. Wm. Royall, of Chas. City Co., a gent. of charactre, a magistrate and vestryman, &c. David Meade Randolph and Wm. Fleming, Esq'r., recommend the appointment of Mr. Blackman Moseley, of Chesterfield Co.

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*I HAD ALMOST FORGOTTEN TO ENCLOSE YOU THE RESOLUTION 1787.

of the Maryland Assembly respecting the appointment of Commissioners October 16th
to meet those appointed by Virginia, to meet at Annapolis. As I pass'd Mannifield
thro' that place I was two Days with Governor Smallwood, who seem'd to be anxious that something should be done before the meeting of the two Legislatures. I acquainted him with the Vote of Congress, which, however, he did not appear to regard.

Your idea, as expressed to me sometime past, I think a good one. If the Exe've were to write to each Commissioner, expressing their wish that the meeting should be held in conformity to the Maryland Resolution, in the next month, it might do good. There is time still left, perhaps sufficient, before the 2d Monday in October.

The Resolution is as follows, copied *verbatim* from the Maryland Laws of April, 1787, now before me:

Resolved, That the five Commissioners appointed by the General Assembly on the 20th of Feb'y, 1786, to meet Commissioners from Pennsylvania and Delaware, or any three or more of them, authorized to meet Commissioners from the States of Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, jointly or separately, and to communicate the Regulations of Commerce and Duties proposed by each State, and to confer on such subjects as may concern the commercial Interests of the s'd States, and the meeting of the Commissioners to be on the third week of September next, and at such place as they shall agree on, and that the proceedings be reported to the Legislature of this State, and the said Commissioners be authorized to meet the Commissioners from the s'd States before the time above mentioned, at such time and place as may be agreed on.

Should you think it right that the Exe'v. ought to advise the attendance of Virginia, a letter from them to the Ex've of Maryland, who will perfectly coincide, may be necessary for them to make a communication to their Commissioners.

Pray excuse this rough writing and paper; the latter is scarce here, and as to the former—*Dinner is ready.*

HENRY BANKS TO GOV'R RANDOLPH. October 19th

Sir:

During the Commotions in Greenbrier I found that lenient and persua- Richmond
sive measures were best calculated to reëstablish order and submission. In Consequence of that and the acquiescence of the leaders to my Request, I promised that no prosecutions should be commenced for what had been done. In your public letter to the House of Delegates, I observ'd that

* Supposed to be from Mr. Corbin to the Governor.

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1787. proscutions had been ordered against several, some of them persons to
October 19th whom I had given this *assurance*. The Intention of this letter is a Request to the Executive to stop such prosecutions. If they are carry'd on, the minds of the people may be, in some degree, irritated, and the promise which I made will be proved ineffectual. I sometime ago had the honor to inform you of the general submission of the Insurgents, which I took the earliest opportunity to do, that disagreeable measures might be prevented. There are are among those whose names have been given in, some who, upon all occasions, have been forward against their common enemy, and who, tho' then riotous and reprehensible, are most firmly attached to the Interests of this Commonwealth.

I have the honor to be your Excellency's
most ob't and hum'l. Serv't.

October 19th H. GATEWOOD, SEARCHER AT THAT PORT,

Hobbs' Hole or Tappahannock — Certifies that the Captain of the ship Rappahannock, from L'Orient, had certified to there being 3,096 bushels of salt on his vessel, whereas, as upon measuring the s'd cargo, there were found to be only 1,890 bushels, &c.

October 21st E. LANGHAM, SUPERINTENDENT, TO COLO. THOS. MERIWETHER,

Point of Fork — Enclosing a Deed to the Commonwealth for one hundred and fifty acres of land in Fluvanna County, for the sum of Sixty-seven pounds Ten shillings, in full, in payment for the same. This land for public use, &c. He has examined the last arms rec'd, and finds some are iron-mounted and others brass-mounted, and thinks the iron-mounted are one-fourth more valuable.

October 22d J. AMBLER, TREASURER,

Treasury Office — Reports to the Executive, since the sale of the Tobacco by order of the Executive, the receipt into the Treasury, on account of the Taxes of 1786, 472 hogsheads of crop, and 133,134 lbs. net, of transfer tobacco, &c.

October 22d COL. THOS. MERIWETHER

Makes report to the Executive of the condition of the militia. In most of the Counties they are officered, or nearly so. In about sixteen or seventeen this is not the case.

Stueben's military Regulations generally distributed, except in Kentucky, where they had not, as yet, been received.

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DR. WM. FOUSHEE 1787.

Certifies to the condition of Edward McSwain, who had been wounded by a ball through the leg, at the battle of Camden, while in the 1st Va. Reg't, under Lieut.-Col. S. Hawes. October 22d

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COLO. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. RANDOLPH. October 22d

Sir:

Inclosed is a return of the militia of Washington County, transcribed from that of the Colonel of the Regiment, sent to me. I had much satisfaction in observing at the last General muster how much the men were improved since last spring, and a spirit of emulation taking place, except in two Companies, which seem dissatisfied with some of their officers. There is another disorder we have to struggle with: part of the militia of the County, between what is called Walker's and Henderson's lines, adhere to N. Carolina, and others to this State, toward whom I should be happy to receive your Excellency's instructions how to conduct myself. This disposition extends to taxes. Washington county

A letter from Mr. Drumgoole will accompany this, which may contain some information respecting the Cherokees. To many it will be pleasing, and I am sure the interests of humanity has been served by the cheap mode your Excellency thought proper to adopt to amuse and keep quiet by good Talks and small presents, a people that, in all probability, had not such attention been shown, would have shed much blood on our defenceless frontier, or on the path in the Wilderness throughout the Summer.

One evil yet remains to be corrected—the removal of abandoned characters from residing among the Indians—these sort of men having generally forfeited their lives to the State they belong to, take refuge among the Indians, become Traders, and not only excite those people to a predatory warfare, but frequently become partys in it themselves. A considerable number of these sort of persons are along with Alex'r McGillivray in the Creek Country, a few with the Chickasas, and a greater number with the Cherokees; I mean those specially of the Chickamogga Towns, among whom is a certain William Jones, late from the neighbourhood of Petersburg, said to be concerned in the murder of one Muir, before he fled. This man from what I have heard of him, if let to remain in the Indian Country, will be more mischeivous than the worse Savage in the nation. Advice from the Executive to Drumgoole might be the means of bringing him to the place where he would receive his desert.

I cannot take upon me to recommend Mr. Alex'r Drumgoole—having but a very slender acquaintance with him here or elsewhere—to a public employment. I have understood that he is become a popular Trader in the Cherokee Towns. He seems active and zealous. Some good may

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1787. October 22d be drawn from this disposition during the unsettled state of American affairs; therefore as far as your Excellency's own judgment leads you, and you have opportunity, please to notice him.

I am, hon'ble Sir,

Your most obedient Servant.

October 23d MR. BASSETT, MR. ——— NELSON, AND MR. ——— CABELL,

In the House of Senators of Virginia Appointed by ballot a Committee to meet a Committee of the House of Delegates in the Conference Chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes and report to the House, on whom the majority of votes had fallen, in the Election of five Delegates to represent Virginia in Congress, to serve one year from the first Monday in November next. Also a Committee, chosen in like manner, from the House of Delegates, viz: Mr. Richard Lee, Mr. Mathews, Mr. Benj. Harrison, Mr. Nicholas, Mr. Turberville, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Watkins, Mr. New, and Mr. Henry, to meet that from the Senate for the like purpose; whereupon the two Committees met, and after having examined the Ballot boxes reported to each House respectively that they had found the Majority of Votes in favour of James Madison, Junior, Edward Carrington, Henry Lee, John Brown, and Cyrus Griffin, Esquires, to be Delegates to Congress as aforesaid, &c.

October 24th THE KEEPER, WILLIAM ROSE,

Public jail Reports to the Hon'ble, the Gen'l Court, now sitting, that he has four criminals almost naked, and are forlorn and friendless. On this account he wants the following articles, viz: 12 strong Dutch Blankets, 6 pair coarse woolen Hose, 4 Oznaburg shirts, &c., and as much Hempen rolls as will make 10 Beds, for 2 each, to be fill'd with Straw. He adds: "The glass in the Sashes being almost all broken, it will require 40 Panes to make the Criminal Rooms tolerably comfortable." This requisition, by order, certified to as reasonable.

October 25th WM. ROSE, KEEPER OF P. JAIL,

Richmond Has Iron cross-bars put on the outside of the windows of the Jail as ordered by the Executive.

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JOSEPH JONES, 1787.

In accordance with Executive Orders, has visited and Inspected the several Naval Officers and Searchers at Alexandria, Dumfries, Tappahannock, Yeocomico, Urbanna and West Point, &c. Makes full report of the condition of each Office under the instructions of the 20th March, 1787. In these Offices Books kept, in which Invoices made out under Oath are recorded. The Official Bonds of the Collectors and Searchers kept on file. Books in which the duties on all articles imported are kept in their proper columns. A register of all vessels going out or arriving, with their tonnage, number of Seamen, &c., with wages of the latter. Bills of health were required to be made out and filed. Permits granted to vessels to discharge cargoes after Searcher's examination, and Clearances allowed for them outward bound. Vessels allowed to sell their cargoes in the stream after due Inspection and duties paid. Goods deposited not allowed to be taken away by the Consignee until the charges and duties paid. Exceptions to these regulations only in cases of vessels trading with Ports of foreign nations with whom the U. States have special treaties, such exceptions indicated by said treaties. Other modifications of the Naval Regulations depended upon the Compact made between Virginia and certain other States in regard to their commercial relations toward each other. October 26th

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SIX CULPRITS October 26th

Tried and convicted by the Gen'l Court of horse-stealing, negro-stealing and Burglary, and sentenced to be hanged. Most of them were, however, subsequently repreived or pardoned. Richmond, Virginia

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THE EXECUTIVE October 26th

Order one hundred and fifty muskets to be delivered out of the Public magazine to the County of King and Queen, whose militia had deposited their arms at Camp by order after their service during the year 1781.

COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. RANDOLPH. October 26th

Sir:

Yesterday Mr. Ross told me he had a letter from Holstien, mentioning that a large body of Creek Indians had crossed the Hiwasee river, and was in full march against the Holstien Inhabitants. This day I have spoke with Major Stokeley Donlelson, directly from the back country. He informs that an Express had come to the Gov'r of Franklin, from Georgia, requesting aid, and that Gen'l Clarke had an engagement of six Richmond, Virginia

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1787. October 26th — hours in one day with the Indians, and that a fort with a large number of families were beseiged by the enemy. He further relates that a Gent. overtook him after he set out, saying that 500 Creeks [had] reached the Settlement on French-Broad, and that a Colo. Hubard had an engagement with them and was worsted.

I mention this to show in what imminent danger our own frontiers are in, and the vast number of families on their way to Kentucky. We have very little ammunition, and rather scarce of proper arms. I expect a direct opportunity to-morrow to Washington, and beleive could we be supplyed with Ammunition, a few Horsemens' Swords and Pistols, that men may be found in numbers sufficient to defend the country.

Mr. Carter will explain the reasons of this application before official information arrives, and I know your Excellency's humanity will plead me excuse for now troubling the Executive.

I am, Sir, your most Ob't Servant.

October 31st

FINE IMPOSED BY THE JUSTICES

Bedford county — Upon one failing to give proper and full Return of his Taxable property, &c. Petition to remit, &c.

October 31st

PETITION OF CERTAIN CRIMINALS

Richmond — For releif from their sentence of punishment, they having already been required to serve at hard labor by *working on the Canal* for sometime.

NUMEROUS REGISTERS OF VESSELS,

Of all descriptions, built in Virginia and North Carolina, averaging from 60 to 180 and 250 Tons.

November 1st

BOND OF ABRAHAM ARCHER,

In the penalty of Five thousand pounds lawful money of this Commonwealth, as naval officer of the District of York River, &c.

November 5th

EDWARD CARRINGTON TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

D'r Sir:

New York — Your Excellency will receive a letter of the 3d instant from the delegation, to be laid before the legislature, which left this place yesterday, but an interruption of the Post at Philadelphia will bring that to hand at the same time that this arrives. Upon looking this morning at the rough

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draft from which the above letter was copied, I find that a considerable error has happened in the paragraph respecting the old emissions of paper money. The balance against the State on the T. Books is nearly *twenty-six millions* of Dollars, in our letter *six* is written. Permit me, sir, to request the favor of you to correct the paragraph before you transmit the letter to the Assembly. 1787. November 5th

I have the honor to be, with great regard,
your Excellencie's most ob't Serv't.

JOHN HETH TO GOV. RANDOLPH, November 6th

Resigning the appointment of Searcher for the District of Bermuda Hundred, conferred upon him on the 16th ult., &c., preferring rather to continue to hold the place of naval officer. He adds: "Permit me to return your Excellency my warmest thanks for this third Instance of the attention of the Executive to my Interests," &c. Richmond, Virginia

Copy of the Form of Commission.

IN THE NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA:

To John Heth, Gentleman:

Pursuant to an act of General Assembly, intituled "An Act for better securing the revenue arising from Customs," and one other act, intituled "An act to amend the several Acts of Assembly concerning naval officers and the collection of the duties." The Governor, with the advice of the Council of State, doth constitute and appoint you, the said Jonn Heth, Searcher of the District of Bermuda Hundred, to have, hold, exercise, and enjoy the said office during pleasure, according to law and the instructions of the Executive.

In testimony whereof, Edmund Randolph, Esquire, the Governor of the said Commonwealth, hath subscribed his name and caused the seal of the Commonwealth to be affixed hereunto at Richmond, this sixteenth day of October, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven.

(Signed,) EDM. RANDOLPH.

THE HON'BLE, THE COUNCIL. November 7th

Beverly Randolph presents his most respectful Compliments to the Gentlemen of the Council, and is prevented by ill-health from attending to public Business, and begs that they will proceed without him. Richmond

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1787.

November 7th — CAPT. RICHARD TAYLOR TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

If agreeable to your Hon'ble Board, I shall be glad to have some small alteration in the Cabbin of the Boat Patriot, it being at present so small and confin'd that there is not room for a stove and comfortable lodgings, and the cold season coming on it will not be in the Power of the Officers to continue on board with any degree of Comfort. The alteration I wish is a small round-house. The expence will not exceed twelve pounds.

I have the Hon'r, Sir, to be
your most ob't Serv't.

November 7th — THEOD. BLAND, BENJ. TEMPLE, AND OTHERS,

Richmond — Recommend to the favorable consideration of the Executive, Capt. —— Nixon, an old and deserving officer of the first Regiment of Dragoons, raised by this State, who is in want of employment. Any suitable office, vacant, will suffice, &c.

November 7th — WM. HETH AND JOSEPH EGGLESTON, ESQ'R'S,

General Assembly — Elected, on joint ballot of the two Houses, members of the Privy Council, to serve from the 28th May next, in place of Sampson Mathews and Miles Selden, Esq'r's, who stand removed, after that date, by the joint Ballot of Both Houses, agreeable to the Constitution of Government.

November 10th — A NEGRO SLAVE,

Louisa county — Valued at £75, tried, condemned, and sentenced to suffer death by hanging for having killed a steer valued at forty shillings; also a sheep, valued at eight shillings, and robbing a Tan Fatt of Two sides of Leather, of the value of Twenty shillings.

The Court of Justices, five present, unanimously recommend him to the clemency of the Executive for Pardon.

November 10th — DAVID SHEPHERD, CO. LIEUT., TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Ohio county — Giving Return of the state of the militia, as far as the distressed condition of the County will allow. He had received 180 pounds of powder and 380 of Lead, which he is Disposing of as carefully as possible. Upon enquiry he finds of the State's arms only seventeen old muskets at Fort Pitt,

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which he has made use of. In accordance with the opinion of the militia officers of the County, he has ordered out two parties of men, one under an Ensign with fourteen men, the other under a Lieutentant with forty men, for one month each at a time. The cheif source of defence during the past summer has been from volunteers, who have annoyed and killed a good many Indians. As far as he can learn about forty whites have been killed by the savages on the frontier of that County, and as far south as the Little Kenhaway. The general opinion is that unless some relief can be afforded by the next Spring, the greater part of the country will be Left Desolate. 1787. November 10th

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M. OSTER, FRENCH CONSUL, TO GOV. RANDOLPH (IN FRENCH), November 11th

In regard to the case of a French Captain, Joseph Marie Anne Ferrier, and his accomplices, whom it had become his duty to proceed against and to arrest if possible. The Governor not having replied to his former letter on this subject, he now repeats the reason why every facility should be allowed him, under the treaty between France and Virginia, to arrest them wherever found, &c. He urges His Excellency to afford him the means of doing this, as being necessary to the maintainance of the comity and good feeling existing between the two countries, &c. Norfolk

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ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO THE EXECUTIVE, November 13th

In regard to an increase of his Salary. After the favorable report of the Committee from the House of Delegates, appointed to examine the progress and situation of the Continental account and the general approbation expressed by members of the Assembly, he thinks himself justified in this application, &c. Richmond

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CAPT. RICHARD TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR. November 14th

Sir :

The Executive, in June last, had done him the honour of appointing him to the Command of the State Boats Patriot and Liberty, &c. At the time this was done the pay and subsistence was reduced to only fourteen shillings and eight pence per day; and from the date of his appointment the pension he had enjoyed was discontinued. Of this he complains as a great hardship, inasmuch as he can scarcely support his very large family from both sources, and particularly as he is almost disabled from performing his present duties by reason of the wound for which he was pensioned. Under his commission he is to act as Commander, Commissary, Paymaster, Clerk, and to superintend and account for all disbursements whatsoever. Under these circumstances he begs his pension may be retained, &c.. Richmond

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1787. A REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE MILITIA OF THE STATE

November 14th — Shows that in a large majority of the Counties they are neither properly or fully officered, and that regular returns are with difficulty procured. On this account several considerations should be brought before the Executive Council, viz: 1st, The filling up of vacancies; 2d, Admonishing those commanding officers who have made no returns; 3d, Publishing that all defaulters in returns, &c., shall be duly prosecuted.

November 15th — ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Commissioner's office

Sir:

Being called upon by Colo. Underwood, as Foreman of a Committee from the H. of Delegates, to examine the situation of the Continental Account, to furnish a Report of the payments made by this Commonwealth on account of the United States, for the information of the Legislature in case they call for it, I am lead to solicite that Mr. Coleman may be directed to overlook the Vouchers he lately arranged, and to select and ascertain the aggregate amount of each Species of specifics delivered to the Officers of the U. States. The part I have to do consists of an addition of upwards of fifteen hundred Pages of Pecuniary and Specific charges; to desect and find out not only the quantity paid for, but the quantities delivered for the purposes of the Union; to ascertain the amount of the Military Debt; the Supplies that went from the State Department and from the manufactories agreeably to present knowledge, all of which will take a very considerable time to effect.

I am therefore induced to make the above request, that I may not longer be diverted from that very necessary attention to the Statement of the whole account in due time than can possibly be prevented.

I have the Honor to be, with respect,

Your most ob. Serv't.

November 19th — *THOMAS JOHNSON AND W. ALEXANDER TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Richmond — Enclosing a Petition of many Freeholders and Inhabitants of Henrico County, which they beg may be presented to the Hon'ble Council, &c., viz:

To his Excellency, the Governor, and the Supreme Executive Council:

The Petition and Complaint of the Subscribers, Inhabitants of the County of Henrico, Humbly Shew, That by an Act of Assembly, entitul'd

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*This Petition is very numerously signed, and in addition to those appended to the letter appear the names of Austin, Pollard, Barrett, Munford, Nimmo, Rutherford, Price, Hopkins, Southgate, Lieper, Galt, Pickett, Cohen & Isaacs, Cunliffe, John and Thos. Gilleatt, Strobia, Lewis, Beale, Fleming, Jacob and Saml. Ege, Lambert, Mayo, Dandridge, Brooke, Payne, Minor, and others.

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an Act for reforming County Courts and for other purposes, the Justices of the Peace are directed to assemble on the first Monday in March, May, August and November, in each Year, and to continue sitting by adjournment from day to day for and during the term of Six days, if Business require, for the purpose of Trying Causes and administering Justice; That the Justices of the County of Henrico had heretofore regularly met on the several Days appointed by Law, and proceeded through the Docquet, by which means the happiest Effects were produced, The Distresses of Creditors were relieved, Improper Contraction of Debts prevented, and Order and Obedience to Law enforced throughout the Country; That it is with the utmost astonishment and Concern Your Petitioners and Complainants find that on Monday, the fifth Instant, being the Term of the Quarterly Session, the Court Assembled and adjourned to the next Term in course without entering upon the Docket, altho' many Suitors attended with their Witnesses, from a great Distance and at great Inconvenience and Expense, in the flattering Hope of terminating their tedious Suits, and having that Justice administered to them, from which, by the Delays of Legal Proceedings, they had been too long withheld. 1787. November 19th

Your Petitioners and Complainants conceive this Conduct a Breach of their Duty as Magistrates, and contrary to the Intentions for which they were invested with this important Trust. They fear the dangerous Example shewn in the Capital County of the State, and under the eye of the Legislature now sitting, will be productive of serious and alarming Consequences, unless an immediate and Vigorous Interposition of the Executive prevent the Evil.

At this trying Crisis of Affairs, when the Sinews of Government have been much relax'd by the Riots and Discontents which have prevailed in many parts of the State, it is obvious to every reflecting Mind that a steady and regular adherence to the Laws can alone ensure public Tranquility.

It is with peculiar Regret that your Petitioners and Complainants find themselves under the necessity of pointing out, as the Authors of this Evil, Men for whom they entertain the highest Esteem and Respect; but to their Country, to themselves and to their Posterity, they are bound to forego all private Considerations, and name John Harvey, Richard Adams, and Isaac Younghusband, Esquires, as the Persons who, by their Motions and Votes, occasioned this Delay of Justice, and, as we conceive, dangerous Interruption of our Judicial System, which, if generally adopted, will empower a few Individuals to deprive the Community at large of the most inestimable Blessing of Government—*A regular Administration of Justice.*

We are willing to suppose that, overloaded with private Business, or other circumstances unknown to your Petitioners and Complainants, they may be able to excuse to their own Minds this Violation of the Law and Breach of Duty; But their Acceptance of the Office, and the Oath which follows, are solemn Engagements to the Public for a faithful Discharge of its *Duties*, a neglect of which *is*, and has already been, attended with the most vexatious and ruinous consequences.

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1787. November 19th

Your Petitioners and Complainants therefore humbly pray that your Honorable Board will take the Matter into Serious Consideration, and if on Enquiry the facts are such as we have stated, which we are ready to verify, if the Conduct of the afore-named Magistrates should appear to you as it does to us, a Violation of their Official Duty and a Breach of Good Behaviour, the Tenure on which they hold their offices, they further pray that your honourable Board will dismiss the Magistrates aforesaid from Office as Justices, or pass such other Censure as to your Wisdom may seem meet. And your Petitioners and Complainants, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

November 19th

SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

Council office

I am just honored with an order of Council, by which I am instructed to make out from the papers now under my examination, a state of the aggregate amount of each species of specifics delivered to the officers of the United States, and furnish Mr. Dunscomb with a copy thereof.

I am constrained to inform the honorable council that from the examination of the papers above referred to, already made pursuant to a former order of Council, to arrange and state the said papers, I find myself incompetent to the task, from being unable to distinguish between the officers of the United States and those of the State. And if I could, the business would take six months at least in its execution, as every single voucher must be particularly examined and noted.

I should be much obliged if the honorable Council will more particularly express what is meant by arranging and stating the said Papers. I have conceived it to be a placing them in such order as easily to ascertain the general proceedings of each Commissioner, &c., and to state any balance which may be due from them to the Public. This I have nearly executed, but I fear far from truth, owing to the confused and unintelligible manner in which the returns are made.

I have the honor, sir, to be your most ob. Serv't.

November 21st

ANDREW DUNSCOMB'S LETTER,

Commissioner's office

Enclosing to Mr. Blair an Extract from the Journal of the House of Delegates, by which it appears that the vouchers for monies paid by this State (Virginia) on account of the United States, from the first of September, 1775, to the fourth day of January, 1781, were burnt or otherwise destroyed by the Enemy on the Invasion of this State by General Arnold, &c.

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THOS. JOHNSON AND W. ALEXANDER TO THE GOVERNOR, 1787.

In regard to the Petition and Complaint made against certain of the Henrico magistrates. At the request of the Executive, they enclose and make specific charges against the aforesaid Justices. Two of the magistrates of Henrico, Thomas Prosser and George Webb, Esq'r's, are not included in this complaint, because they had retired and did not vote for the adjournment of the court. This fact will be admitted by Messrs. Harvie and Younghusband. But should it be necessary they are willing to make oath to the fact and prove the same by other witnesses, especially Adam Craig, Cl'k of the County, and Chas. Hay, the attorney, &c. As the case is now brought to an issue, they desire to appear before the Executive by Counsel, in the person of Andrew Ronald, Esq'r., &c. November 21st Richmond

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J. AMBLER, TREASURER, November 23d

Encloses to the Executive a demand from John Hopkins, Esq'r., Commissioner of Loans for the United States in Virginia, based upon requisitions made by Congress upon the several States, &c. Mr. Ambler informs the Governor that there are in the Treasury funds derived from the revenue of 1785 and 1786, to the amount of £82,080, and of specie, £6,518, being the balance of the six shilling tax p'r hogshead on Tobacco exported, for the purpose of complying with the demands of Congress of the 21st Oct., 1786; also £1,266 of new Taxes, to be devoted to the requisitions of Congress of the 2nd August, 1786, &c., &c. Treasury office

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NATH'L BURWELL, DUDLEY DIGGES, AND CHAMPION TRAVIS, November 28th

Having presided at the Trial of a negro slave woman for Burglary when she was convicted and sentenced to suffer death, recommend that she be pardoned by the Executive.

DEPOSITIONS TAKEN IN THE CASE OF THE COMPLAINT November 30th

Made against John Harvie, Richard Adams, and Isaac Younghusband, Justices for Henrico County, for having unnecessarily adjourned the quarterly court, and thereby postponed the trial of causes, &c., consulting their own convenience rather than the welfare of the public. It was proven that the Court sat only one day, at the Mason's Hall, in Richmond, of the 5th of November, on which occasion they only set aside nine office judgments and granted two attachments, altho' there were set for trial at this term of the Court one hundred and sixty-nine suits, seventy-two petitions, and there were docketed one hundred and twenty-three office Judgments Richmond, Virginia

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1787. November 30th — and fifty-eight presentments. There had been issued ninety-six *subpœnas* for witnesses, some of whom had come one hundred miles, and others from remote parts of the county, at great expence, &c. Some of the attorneys had employed others to attend to their business for them. Mr. Beckley, who was clerk of the Assembly, had engaged Mr. Wm. Pope to act in his stead, &c. It was further shown that no opportunity was given to clients against whom office judgments were recorded, to have them removed.

December 1st — Commissioner's office

Mr. Andrew Dunscomb

Informs the Executive, that in order to give them the information they desire in regard to the Continental account, he will require the services of another Cle'k. He, therefore, recommends for that place Mr. Wm. Lambert.

J. Pendleton

Henrico county — Certifies that he has, on this day, administered to Edmund Randolph, Esq'r., the oaths required by Law, as Governor of the Commonwealth.

December 2d — Norfolk

Wm. Graves, Searcher, to Gov. Randolph,

Enclosing copy of his official Bond, and laying before him some of the circumstances, &c., in the way of executing his trust. Packages of goods, said to be of small value, frequently are found to contain much more than is indicated by the Invoices, and the naval officer only taking the gross amount of the Invoices, they are landed, and he cannot then insist upon an inspection. From the multiplicity of landing places from Norfolk to Bermuda Hundred, searchers report the same cargoes, altho' many articles may have been landed at different points in the District. The Tonnage and Hospital money are almost always returned several times on this account. Vessels frequently take out goods at different places, as Lambert's Point, Craney Island, &c., and claim that they are within the jurisdiction of Norfolk or Portsmouth, hence the limits of the Ports should be accurately described. Vessels from other States enter and sell part of their cargoes, and then take out a Crafting permit and go trading up the rivers, thus injuring the business of the Crafts of this State. The Stationary consumed in his office amounts to more than his salary, and the rent of his office, ten pounds, and the forty pound allowed the young man in his employment, only pays his board, and as he is obliged to secure the services of a man of character, such small wages will not support such an one. Under these circumstances he will have to abandon the office, unless the necessary changes are made in his favor, &c.

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WM. MCMACHEN AND ARCH'D WOODS TO GOV. RANDOLPH, 1787.

Setting forth the desperate state of affairs in Ohio County, the inhabitants threatened with destruction at the hands of the Savages, who are continually making incursions among them. The frontier of that County being at least forty miles in length on the river, and from six to ten in breadth, forms a good barrier to the people of Pennsylvania, who appear perfectly easy in their situation. As representatives of the people of Ohio County, they feel called upon to say that, being badly armed and scattered over this extended frontier, they must be driven off by the Indians, unless steps are taken to defend them. They suggest that trustworthy spies or scouts be employed to watch the enemy, while a company of militia be always kept ready to move to a threatened point, and if the State cannot afford this, they recommend that application be made to the Congress for assistance, &c. December 3d Richmond

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BY CERTAIN DEPOSITIONS December 4th

Taken in a dispute between E. White and others, it appears that the Warehouses at New Castle and Hanover Town were destroyed by the enemy during the late war, and were rebuilt in 1786 by Contract, &c. Hanover county

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M. OSTER, FRENCH CONSUL TO GOV. RANDOLPH (IN FRENCH), December 5th

In reply to the decision of the Executive Council, that no aid can be furnished him in arresting the deserters from the Brig David, referred to in his letter of the 11th November. He proceeds to urge reasons why this assistance should be granted from one or all of the American States, whose Independence had been recognized by his Government, and in accordance with the good will and treaties existing, &c., &c. Norfolk

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COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. RANDOLPH. December 5th

Sir:

Within these few days past I have been applyed to by some members of the House to state to your Excellency my opinion of the most eligible mode of defending the South-Western Counties from the Incursions of the Indians should they attack that quarter next Spring.

It is observable that the stationary Militia-men on the frontiers, especially among the Mountains, to protect the Inhabitants, have, in a great degree, been ineffectual and very expensive. The small parties of Indians, when they come near the Settlements, approach as secretly as a Wolf in search of his prey. In going off they may be pursued and overtaken, provided a good Officer and men ready equipt are at hand. Forts near the Ohio, and Militia adjacent, equipt as Horsemen, would probably

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1787. December 5th

answer a valuable purpose. To protect the Clinch Settlements from the attacks of the Northern Indians, a Post or Station established on Sandy river, where the road from Greenbrier to Kentucky crosses, would prevent the Indians from going up and down that river in their canoes, by which they are enabled to carry off plunder more easily, and would answer as a stage between the Kanhawa and Licking Settlement, also fo'ward the settling the country. General Washington would be much interested in this business, and therefore ought to give encouragement.

But upon the whole, the more I consider and hear of the matter, I am convinced that if the Super'd'ts of Indian Affairs and their Agents would but exert themselves, much money and many lives might be saved. Nothing can be a more direct proof of this than the measures that has given safety to vast crowds of emigrants that has lately passed through the Wilderness. It is a wrong policy at this day, and in the present circumstances of the United States, to wish to extirpate whole Tribes of Indians. There is other ways of disarming them, and indeed making them useful; and I will pledge myself to my Country that if Congress will deliver over to your hands, only for the term of three years, the management of the Southern Indians, I will point out and assist in the execution of such measures as will bring about the desirable end.

From the new Superintendent for the Northern Department much may be expected, and I am sanguine enough to hope that by next Spring he will preclude the necessity of our State being at the Expense of raising a force to protect her North-western frontier. The number of Souls in the four Southern Tribes may be computed at one Hundred Thousand. To preserve these, and make them useful, ought to be an object with American Statesmen. By a letter from Georgia, and another from Franklin, I observe a large force is preparing to march into the Creek Country. It might do no harm to American negociations if this force would only chastise the Creeks, but I dread the consequence of a very irregular Militia from Franklin going through the Cherokee Country to join the Georgia forces.

I have the honor to be, respectfully,
Your Excellency's Ob't Servant.

December 6th

THE EXECUTIVE BY JOINT VOTE

General Assembly

Empowered to send a special messenger to North Carolina, in order to get the decision of that Government on the subject of the boundary line between the two States as extended by the Commissioners in 1779.

(Signed) JOHN JONES,
Speaker of the Senate.
JOS. PRENTIS,
Speaker of H. of Delegates.

H. BROOKE, *C. S.*
JOHN BECKLEY, *Cl'k H. D.*

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WILLIAM ROSE, KEEPER OF P. JAIL, 1787.

Reports twenty prisoners on hand; some for trial, others had been burnt in the hand, and others condemned had been repreived, &c. December 6th Richmond

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RESOLUTION December 7th

Requesting the Executive to forward at once a copy of the Act passed in 1786, for opening a canal from Elizabeth River, in Virginia, to Pasquotank river, in North Carolina, &c. General Assembly

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*COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. RANDOLPH. December 10th

Sir:

If I recollect right, about the year 1780, the boundary line betwixt Virginia and N. Carolina was extended by Colo. Fry and Jefferson as far west as a place called the Steep-Rock Creek, since known by the name of the Laurel Fork of Holstein River. This line being extended on the true latitude by Commissioners on both sides, and mutually agreed to, was returned and recorded in Public offices in both States. Richmond

In 1779, the Commissioners, Thomas Walker and Daniel Smith, on the part of Virginia, and Richard Henderson and James Smith, on the part North Carolina, met at the place where Fry and Jefferson left off, and after spending many days in making observations, agreed to continue Fry and Jefferson's line as the true, or at least nearest the true latitude. Both parties proceeded amicably about 40 miles, until they crossed the north Fork of Holstein, near the great Island. By this time the Pilots and Hunters give it as their opinion that both Cumberland Gap and the Settlement on Cumberland River, at the French Lick, would both fall into Virginia. A halt was made, and several days passed in making observations, debating, and even abusing one another. Henderson said the line must be run crooked, and insisted to delay until a parallel, at two miles distant, north of the line then run, should be extended eastward back, which would prove whether the surveyors had lost the latitude and run the line crooked. To this Doctor Walker assented, that if the line was found crooked he would rectify it. The Surveyors run back accordingly, accompanied by two Commissioners, and the line was found equi-distant in all parts that was tryed. It was then ackowledged that the error did not proceed from the Surveyors. Notwithstanding which, Henderson proceeded westwardly on the north Line, and Walker on that of the South, it being on a due west direction from Steep Rock. The Commissioners, when they reached Cumberland mountain, again had a meeting; spent

*A small diagram of the two lines appears at the foot of this letter.

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1787. December 10th

many days in taking observations. At length Walker proceeded on over the mountain with his line, without being accompanied by Henderson; spent the winter in the woods, and the next spring continued the line to the Mississippi. The Carolina Commissioners left off at Cumberland mountain, and when they found that the boundary run by Dr. Walker left the French Lick upwards of twenty miles to the South, they seemed well satisfied, and it was generally thought that Doctor Walker's Report would be agreed to and signed by both parties. But, from what motive I know not yet, Henderson returned his works as run only to Cumberland mountain, to the Executive of North Carolina. And I have been told that the papers have since lay dormant, no opinion having been given one way or the other.

The People settled between those lines have ever since adhered to either State as Interest, caprice, and sometimes very unworthy motives dictated. Although the public authority seems, in the first instance, to be blamable, yet the evil amongst the people is increasing, and prudence points out delay as improper.

I am, sir, your most Obedient Servant.

December 11th

JAS. MADISON, J'N'R, ED. CARRINGTON, J. BROWN, AND C. GRIFFIN, DELEGATES, TO GOV'R RANDOLPH.

Sir:

New York

We have been honored with your Excellencie's favour of the 24th ult., together with its enclosures.

Congress have not yet assembled, nor have we an early prospect of a sufficient number of States upon the floor for business. In the recess of that body there is no authority in existence for making the appointment you request, with respect to the Cherokee and other tribes of Indians in the western parts of Virginia and North Carolina. The Indian Ordnance provides for no more than one Superintendent for all the Southern Indians. To this office Doctor White was appointed by Congress in October, 1786, and he has lately resigned. How far Congress may be induced to make a separate or subordinate appointment for the Indians in your Excellencie's contemplation, we cannot undertake to say. To us the idea appears a good and reasonable one, and we will submit it to the consideration of Congress as soon as there are nine States present. Some time must elapse before any step at all can be taken with respect to the Southern Indians, other than what were provided for. Late in the last session of Congress, a few days before the end of the federal year, some Resolutions were passed for appropriating six thousand dollars for holding Treaties with the Southern Indians, and North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia are requested to appoint each a Commissioner, who are to hold the Treaties. How far these States will act upon these resolutions we cannot undertake to say, having heard nothing from them.

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1787. December 11th.

In this state of things it must remain with your Excellency to determine what it may be necessary for the Government of Virginia to do. He cannot, however, encourage any proceedure under an expectation that Congress will recognize the expence, nor have we reason to think that that should the appointment suggested by your Excellency be approved of, Major Drumgoole would be the man selected. Colo. Martin, who long acted in this business, under the authority of Virginia, and whose communications have eventally reached Congress, would probably be preferred. Indian agents, necessarily, have the exercise of powers which Congress will not confer on any but characters tolerably well known. Doctor White is now here, and we have conversed with him upon the subject of his late department. He says the state of Indian affairs in Georgia has been such as to engage his whole time and attention while in office, this occasioned him to neglect the business as it respected those under your Excellencie's consideration, and of course he had no ground of correspondence with the government of Virginia.

We do not undertake to decide upon the fitness of this Gentleman for the appointment he held, but in justice to him, we beg leave to observe that the sentiments of the Georgians, who alone have known him in the execution of his duty, may, very possibly, be formed upon views entirely opposite to those which would found a wise and just conduct in the Superintendant of Indian affairs. Had these people conformed to his advice and agency, it is probable they would have avoided the bloody war in which they are now involved, in consequence of their own violations of the Treaties held by the Commissioners of the United States with the Indians.

We have the Honour to be, with the greatest respect,
your Excellencie's most ob. Servants.

NEGRO SLAVE, HERCULES. December 12th

Who had been tried, convicted, and sentenced to suffer death by hanging, for have been accessory to the burning of the Jail and Clerk's office of said county, in conjuction with John Price Posey (white), unanimonsly recommended to Executive clemency by the members of the County Court, by whom he was tried, &c. New Kent county

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IN PROCEEDINGS December 12th

Taken against the Sheriff of this County for remainder of Taxes due, it is seen that in receiving the Specie paid in, it was weighed, and in this instance fell short of its supposed value. Amherst county

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1787. CAPT. RICHARD TAYLOR TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

December 18th
Hampton

Informing him he had drawn a small amount of money from the hands of Col. Parker, the Naval Agent at Norfolk, to make purchases of necessaries for the use of the State Boats. He desires instructions as to whether he shall buy pork to be salted up. The price of this article at Norfolk is now about twenty-five shillings p'r cwt., and he would not purchase more than 3,000 lbs. at a time, inasmuch as he has no way of caring for a larger amount. £150 will be a sufficient sum with which to meet the expenses of the present Quarter—concludes: "The Boat Liberty is on her station up potomack, and expect her return about 10 days hence. Should the winter set in hard I think it advisable not to send her up during the month of Jan'y for fear of Ice; but few arrivals lately in James River and Norfolk," &c.

December 18th

ALEX. DRUMGOOLE TO GOV. RANDOLPH, OF VA.,

Baltimore

Informing him he had just returned from New York, and is on his way back to the Cherokee nation. He had delivered the Indian letters at New York, but unfortunately Congress was not in Session, and all his trouble and expense of this expedition, and in conducting the Indian Chief to Philadelphia the summer before, and his effort to procure the U. S. agency among the Cherokees, had failed. Altho' he had been at great trouble and cost the year before in delivering the messages of Congress, and the presents sent by the Secretary at War, he had never received a farthing of compensation. Mr. Madison had recommended him to call at Richmond and solicit an appointment as State Agent at the Cherokee nation, inasmuch as the frontiers of Virginia lay adjacent to that nation, and he could thereby be serviceable in maintaining the peace in that region. He will cheerfully listen to any commands from Gov. Randolph, and requests that communications for him be forwarded to Col. Arthur Campbell, of Washington Co., &c.

December 18th

PURSUANT TO AN ORDER OF THE HONORABLE, THE GENERAL COURT,

Richmond

A committee of three gentlemen was appointed to inspect the condition of the Public Jail. They found the apartments, four in number, three for criminals and one for Debtors, in good order, and as well kept as could be under the circumstances; but from the smallness of the Rooms, and great number of criminals usually lodged in Prison, the Jailor is often under the necessity of putting many of them in the Debtor's Apartment, which renders the Situation of that unhappy Class of Citizens extremely distressing. In several Instances single Women confined for Debt have been stowed—without Regard to that Decency their Sex entitles them to—among the most profligate and abandoned of mankind, &c. To remedy this, the

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Jailor pointed out to the Committee how an addition of two conveniently-sized rooms, at a small expense, would obviate the danger of Putrid Complaints arising from the Stench of confined and crowded Rooms in hot weather, and the Debtors be releived from a situation which at present is shocking to humanity. 1787. December 18th

In viewing the Jail Yard, they noticed that posts had been set to strengthen the wall, by which a person could easily escape from the enclosure. This was recommended to be changed, and Iron Bars to be placed across the windows. The expense necessary to these improvements was estimated at £216.

Upon this Report having been referred to the Executive, and by them to the Assembly, the latter gave authority to the Gov. in Council to order a contract for the contemplated improvements. Upon Enquiry made to Mr. J. Ambler, the Treasurer, it was found that there was no unappropriated money in the Treasury. What had last been received was carried under the Law to the General Fund, and had been appropriated to defray the expenses of the Gen'l Assembly, and to pay a Quarter's Salary to the Officers of Government.

JAMES INNES, ATTORNEY-GENERAL, December 18th

Informs the Governor of two cases in which his decision is required: one is that of a certain John McGee, against whom there are two Indictments for crimes found to have been committed in Pennsylvania, for trial for which the prisoner consents to be sent to that State; the other is the case of a man charged with murder, said to have been committed in Delaware, but who was here discharged. A proclamation from the authorities of that State offered a reward for his apprehension, and Jacob Moore thereupon seized him with the intention of carrying him to that State; at the same time, however, a Sheriff in Virginia had served upon him a civil process, and took him into custody. He submits these cases to his Excellency, that Government may, under the Confederation, adopt such measures as the nature of the case may require, &c. Richmond

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COPY OF AN ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY December 18th

Providing for the creation of a Sinking Fund, &c., with observations thereon by the Executive.

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1787.

ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

December 20th Richmond Commissioner's office

A very short time after I had entered on the duties of my present office, difficulties rising on difficulties, continually opposed my desire of placing the account of the Commonwealth on the plain, sure, and entelligable footing I wished. To redress, or rather to ease those difficulties, I made application, as general as my knowledge would admit, to several Gentlemen who had the conduct of the departments during the war. To these I receive, in some cases, satisfactory replys; in others less so, but still of use; and to some nothing of the least avail. Taking the advantage of any and everything that offer'd to my mind as alleviations of the powerful obstacles, I conceived that my further progress would be more easy and intelligable. But, alas! I find myself totally at a loss for reasoning to support, or authority to place many matters that appear Continental Supplies to the Debit of the United States. Such a variety of opinions, methods, rules, regulations and authorities as have been adopted, followed and received, would almost defy the power of man to arrange, or make plain and uniform the complicated account. Under these reflections, which has possessed and harrassed my mind for a considerable time, I beg the liberty of laying a statement of them before the Executive, that they may take the same under consideration, and give such releif as may appear proper. The object of my address is to be favoured with Council to assist in the most complicated matter I ever was acquainted with, and it will afford me much satisfaction to receive the opinion of Gentlemen, whose knowledge of the contingences of an Army will give argument, and whose experience of the difficulties that oppos'd a regular system in the different State Departments will afford releif. As the Commissioner of Congress is now arrived, the objections he may offer will become more properly the subject of my solicitations.

I have the Honor to be your most ob't Humb. Serv't.

December 20th Richmond

WILLIAM WINDER TO GOV. RANDOLPH, OF VA.,

Informing him that the Board of Treasury having appointed him Commissioner to state the accounts of Virginia and North Carolina against the United States, in accordance with the Ordinance of Congress of 7th May last, he has the honor of announcing to his Excellency his readiness to proceed to the business so far as relates to this State, &c.

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ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO GOV. RANDOLPH. 1787.

Sir:

Agreeably to your desire, I enclose a Copy of an Estimated amount of the Account of this Commonwealth against the United States, as furnished the Committee from the House of Delegates. How far it may meet the approbation of the Commissioners of Congress I cannot say, but really think, upon principles of equity and justice, that the expenditures of this State in support of the war will be found much greater than is imagined. December 21st Richmond Commissioner's office

I have the Honor to be your most obed. Humble Serv't.

According to the aforesaid statement the total amount is £3,414,388 5s. 4d.; but in consideration of the state of the accounts, and the shortness of time he has had, he considers some of the items estimated inaccurately. The supplies that went from the Departments of the State Agent are not included in the above; they are presumed to amount to £15,000, Specie.

THE EXECUTIVE, December 21st

In accordance with the resolution of the Gen'l Assembly, order Col. Meriwether to send without delay and at the public expense, arms, ammunition, flints, &c., to the Counties of Monongalia, Harrison, Ohio and Randolph, in due proportion for the defence of that Country; That the County Lieutenants thereof be informed of this action by letter, and that they be authorized to receive and distribute these articles as they may see fit; that the arms be sent direct to Morgan's Town, thence to be distributed, &c. Richmond

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HENRY BANKS TO THE EXECUTIVE, December 22d

In regard to the claim of Hunter Banks & Co., a trading company of Richmond, who were owners and ship's husband of many vessels, and were eminent and respectable merchants, both for their property and Reputation. They had fitted out and loaded many vessels for sea, when, in 1781, Governor Jefferson issued orders for taking into service all such vessels in James River as might be thought useful to coöperate with the army of Major-General Baron Steuben, for capturing the British forces then at Portsmouth. These orders were executed by Mr. Robt. Mitchell and Capt. William Lewis, of Fredericksburg, the latter having been appointed and commissioned Commodore of the Fleet by Gov'r Jefferson. For many weeks these vessels were under the command of Comm. Lewis, and were employed by him subject to the orders of Baron Steuben, until they were all captured by the British near Osborne's. He then proceeds to Richmond

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1787. December 22d — give reasons why the prosecution of this claim had not been urged, this was mainly due to the inability of the scattered members of the Company to meet and arrange a plan upon which to act. Upon a proper Investigation he assures the Executive that sufficient evidence can be furnished by which the sufferers may have justice done them by the State, &c.

December 22d — Commissioner's office

ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Setting forth at length the reasons why so much difficulty exists in arranging and reconciling the vouchers in the several Departments of the State, with the statements of claims against the U. States. The limits of a letter will not allow of a general detail in explaining this subject. As Commissioner to settle these accounts, and determine these claims, he is required to investigate the validity of the vouchers and certificates of the late Commissary, Quartermasters, Clothing, Marine and Hospital Departments, and to pass upon all authorized by Resolves of Congress, &c. He, therefore, begs to be allowed time and opportunity for such an examination of these papers as will meet objections which may be made by the Commissioners of Congress, and will also enable him to afford proper information to his Excellency.

December 24th — Richmond

CHAS. LYNCH TO THE GOVERNOR,

Informing him he is about to work the Lead mines again, and in as much as the State has on hand, at Fort Chiswell, a large quantity of lead, he desires the loan of a few thousand wt., with which to procure provisions, &c.

December 26th — Board of Treasury United States

SAMUEL OSGOOD AND WALTER LIVINGSTON TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

We are informed that an Act has been once read in the Legislature of the State of Virginia, changing the appropiations of the monies which had been collected, or might hereafter be collected, in pursuance of the Special Requisition of Congress, of the 21st October last, and of the arrearages of prior Requisitions, which the State had permitted the Receipt of in Tobacco.

We beg leave to inform your Excellency that when the Act relative to the Special Requisition was repealed, that it was not in the contemplation of Congress to hold up an idea to the States which had complied with it, that the monies which had been collected under the Act were unnecessary. The only object it had in view was to place States who had evidenced their zeal on this occasion, on an Equal Footing with those States which had not complied with the Act, by raising the monies collected in consequence of it, to the credit of such of the general Requisi-

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1787. December 26th

tions as they should Judge most advisable. The Fact is that the Expenditures which that Requisition was calculated to discharge, amounted to more than was collected in pursuance of it, and that to satisfy them we have been obliged to apply the monies arising from the General Requisitions. From this augmentation in Expence, and from an almost total negligence in most of the States in supplying the General Treasury, its present state is such that unless immediate and Effectual Exertions are made by the different members of the Union to collect and pay in their arrearages of Specie, even the Form of the Government cannot, probably, be maintained longer than six months. It is with the utmost Difficulty that we have been able to secure the supply of Provisons to the Troops on the Western Frontiers to the first day of July next. After this period, unless Funds are provided by the States, they must Inevitably disband.

The consequences which must Inevitably result from a Dissolution of the present System of Government before a substitute is agreed on, are dreadful to a considerate mind, Even in anticipation. In the foremost Rank of these calamities, an Indian war, more generally extensive than any which has heretofore happened, will present itself, and the States most contiguous to the scene of action will be Exposed, not only to its horrors, but to an accumulation of Expence, much greater than any sums now retained from the General Treasury.

Such being our prospects, it becomes our Duty to state them to your Excellency, and to request the Favor of you to lay them before the Legislature of the State. The Example of Virginia, with respect to the Requisitions, has been already followed by the State of Delaware, and will, probably, unless prevented in season, Extend itself through the Union.

It is not within our Province to decide on the merits of any Plan which the Legislatures of the several States may adopt relative to the operations of Finance, when they are not connected with those of a general nature. The assumption of the Domestic Debt by the Legislatures of any of the States at this Juncture, will, too, probably defeat, in a great Degree, the measures adopted by the last Congress for absorbing a very large Proportion of it. For the means of doing this, the Union are indebted to the liberal Policy of the State of Virginia, in her act of Cession of the Western Territory. A Question will probably arise whether, in addition to this Sacrifice of private Interest for the general weal, it would be advisable for the State of Virginia to collect Taxes on her Citizens for redeeming any Part of the Domestic Debt. The honorable Mr. Lee, one of our Colleagues, who will deliver in person this Letter, will Explain to your Exlency more fully, than we can do by Letter, the present Embarrased situation of the Finances. His principal object in undertaking the present Journey arises from this source. It will give us Pleasure to learn that the State will, as usual, continue her support to the Gen'l Government.

We have the Honor to be, with great Respect,

Your Excellency's Obed't, H'bl. Serv'ts.

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1787. JOINT RESOLUTION,

December 26th General Assembly — Desiring the Governor to transmit to the Executive and Legislature of the respective States, a copy of the act passed at the present session concerning the convention to be held in June next, &c.

Dccember 28th — JOS. MARTIN TO GOV. EDMUND RANDOLPH.

Richmond

Sir:

Your Excellency's favour of Jan'y 31st, 1786, was handed me on June 16th, following, wherein you Informed me of the appointment of Doctor White, and that I was Discontinued from office as Agent of Indian Affairs. You requested me at the same time to deliver the Silver medals that accompanied the Letter to such Cheifs that I thought proper, in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia, which I did, which Took Forty Days going, collecting the cheifs and Returning, for which your Excellency will make such allowance as you think proper.

I beg leave to assure your Excellency that at the time the Letter came to Holston, I was in the Cherokee nation on the Duties of my office, having Received Instructions from Mr. Henry previous to that time to attend close to the Business.

I have the Honour to be

Your Excellency's most Humbly and ob'nt Servant.

December 29th — PETER LYONS TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Hanover county — In behalf of his friend, Mr. Bart. Anderson, a late Justice of the Peace in that County, who, upon complaint of certain persons, Elisha White in particular, had been removed from office by the Executive, &c. After dwelling at length upon the blameless, early life and subsequent useful career of this gentleman, he concludes: "In private life he has always been esteemed as a kind neighbor, an earnest friend, and an inoffensive, worthy man, of pure morals. I believe he feels more for his character than for his removal from office, which is of small consideration when put in comparison with what is so dear to him," &c.

December 31st — CAPT. RICH'D TAYLOR TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Hampton — Requesting authority to draw on Colo. Parker, naval officer at Norfolk, for funds sufficient to make purchases of provisions, &c., for the Public Vessels at cash prices, this being the cheapest mode of supplying them. Desires also to know whether the Liberty is to be kept on her station in the

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Potomac, while there is danger from ice. Capt. James, just returned from that District, says there have been only two arrivals in that river within the past month. 1787. December 31st

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COLO. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. RANDOLPH. December 31st

Sir:

I hear the office of Superintendent of the Southern Department is now vacant, and that General McIntosh will not serve. There is a good work begun, under your Excellency's auspices, with the Cherokees, and it is devoutly to be wished that the same pacific disposition could be brought about with the other Tribes. This, with other reasons, has induced me to consent that my name may be mentioned as a candidate for the Southern Superintendency, provided I am so happy as to be honored with your patronage. It will at least give Congress a choice, and nothing I now know of would give me greater pleasure than that it might excite such a competition as that a person more capable might be chosen. Richmond

A well digested plan, our entire system, ought soon to be adopted respecting all the Indians, in order to retain them in the interest of the United States. I have collected some thoughts on this subject, which, when matured, I purpose to communicate to your Excellency for your consideration. Whether philanthropic schemes are successful or not, will depend on others, but sure I am, the self satisfaction the essay will give will more than compensate the trouble. The present era of the affairs of the Union seems to be a critical one, on which account peace everywhere are doubly desirable, that the wisdom of our Sages may be concentered in bringing about, in the best way, the proposed national reform.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect,
your most obedient Servant.

(Private.)

P. S.—Perhaps there is a part of the history of my life which your Excellency is unacquainted with. When a lad I was captivated by the Indians, and remained with them upwards of two years, during which time I traversed a part of those vast regions lying to the northwest, and being on my arrival at their Towns, adopted in the place of one of their Sachems, who was killed in their wars with the Cherokees, I had a peculiar opportunity to study their language, customs and manners.

A. C.

ARTHUR CAMPBELL, ANDREW COWAN, SAM'L EDMISTON, DAN'L BOONE AND THOS. CARTER, TO GOV. RANDOLPH. December 31st

Sir:

If it is found next Spring that a war with the Indians is unavoidable, we are of opinion that Two Companies of Rangers, of 50 men each, will be necessary to protect the frontiers of Washington, Montgomery and Richmond

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1787. December 31st — Russell. Those allotted to range, so as to be a safeguard to the Inhabitants of Montgomery, to be stationed on the West side of the Great Kanhawa, where the Greenbrier Road crosses to Kentucky, and on Sandy River, where the said road crosses that river.

Those for the defence of the other two Counties might be stationed: 1st, A detachment at Park's Spring, in Powell's Valley; another at Yoakum's Station, where the waggon road crosses powell's river; a third in the Rye-Cove, and the remainder in the neighbourhood of Castle-woods, the New-Garden, or Richlands. Scouts ought constantly to be passing between the Castle-wood's Station and the Fort on Sandy river. Muskets suitable for light Infantry are preferable to Rifles, as Buckshot may be used, and the Bayonet will be excellent for night-attacks or defence. Five hundred pounds of Powder, with lead equivalent, will be sufficient for Washington and Russell, and the like quantity may be necessary for Montgomery. A stand of Colours, Drum and Fife, would be useful for each Company.

We are your Excellency's most ob. Servants.

December — BOND OF ANTHONY SINGLETON,

In the penalty of Five thousand pounds, current money of Virginia, to execute the Office of Agent to invest in public securities the military certificates, Monies, Tobaccos, and other things appropriated to a Sinking Fund by act of the Gen'l Assembly, &c., &c.

December — JOHN PAGE, WM. O. WINSTON, WM. DARRACOTT, JOHN LAWRENCE, GEDDES WINSTON, THOS. TINSLEY, AND WM. ANDERSON, J'N'R,

Hanover county — Testify to the high standing and good character of Mr. Bartelot Anderson, both as a late Justice of the Peace, and as a citzen, &c.

RECEIPT FOR PAYMENT FOR A COPYING MACHINE,

With 2 false bottoms, double folding Leaves, Drawer under Leaf-locks, hinges, Catches, &c., at the cost of £3. 4. 0. for the State of Va.

AMONG THE CRIMINALS REPORTED IN THE PUBLIC JAIL

Richmond — Appears the name of John Price Posey, late of the Parish of St. Peter's, in N. Kent Co., labourer, sentenced to be hanged on the following 18th of January for burning the Jail and Clerk's office of said County.

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OFFICIAL BOND OF GEORGE WRAY, 1787.

As Naval Officer for the District of James River, port Hampton, in the penalty of five thousand pounds, lawful money of Virginia, &c. December

CROP TOBACCO RECEIVED FOR TAXES OF 1787: Treasury office

Potowmack.	*Upper.*		*Lower.*	
	Hhds.	Lbs.	Hhds.	Lbs.
	17	18,363	10	10,860
Rappahannock.....	16	18,613	19	20,764
York.....	—	——	13	14,050
	1	1,111		
James, Appo't'x,	4	4,555	76	80,957
	38	42,642	118	126,631

TRANSFER TOBACCO REC'D FOR TAX OF 1787:

	Upper.	*Lower.*
	Lbs.	Lbs.
Potowmack.....	2,002	548
Rappahannock.....		249
York.....	160	——
	326	
James, College Landing,	1,868	1,260
	4,356	2,057

AMELIA,

Sheriff prays for releif.

Petitions of sheriffs for relief, people unable to pay taxes, &c

Augusta, sheriff (Bowyer) reports not one-third of the taxes for 1783–4 collected, and no purchasers will attend sales of property determined upon.

Berkeley, sheriff (Morgan Morgan) prays for releif. Taxes cannot be collected for scarcity of money and the impossibility to sell the property of debtors.

Dinwiddie, sheriff prays for releif.

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1787. Gloucester, sheriff prays for releif, and inhabitants petition to be relieved from taxation.

Henry, sheriff prays for releif.

Northampton, sheriff prays for releif.

Powhatan, sheriff prays for releif.

Prince Edward, sheriff prays for releif.

Rockingham, sheriff prays for releif.

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*Extracts from a Journal Kept by Bolling Stark,

When on a recent visit to the eastern frontier of the State in August and September, 1787, intended partly to examine into the proceedings of the naval officers and searchers, partly for the restoration of his own health, and partly as a visit to his children, residing in Norfolk.

Monday, Aug. 6th.—The State Boat, Patriot, having come to Richmond on public business, which being compleated this day, in the afternoon, I judged it advisable to take my passage in her to Norfolk, for the purposes above mentioned, and accordingly went on board at 8 o'clock this evening, having previously sent on board a sufficient quantity of stores, &c., to serve a week, that there might be no possible risk of the public incurring the smallest expence by my company, &c., &c. But there being no wind, we were under the necessity of rowing and towing, and, of course, made slow progress down the river. After a tedious and disagreeable passage of three days and four nights, occasioned by a dead calm the greatest part of the time, we reached Norfolk early on Friday morning, 10th of August. At 9 o'clock this morning went on shore and took up a temporary residence at Capt. Hillary Moseley's, and from that day 'til 16th, I employed my time in visiting my friends and acquaintances at Norfolk and Portsmouth.

Aug. 16th.—Capt. Taylor having come over from Hampton to Norfolk, to get a supply of fresh provisions, &c., for both the State boats, and signifying to me his intention of taking a cruize about the Chesapeake bay and the different bays thereof, for the purpose of detecting illicit traders,

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*This Journal has been copied in full from the original, because of its giving a clear and more succinct account of the Departments and offices visited, and of the functions of their incumbents, than is to be found in any document heretofore seen relating to this particular subject. In addition to this, it strikingly illustrates the fidelity with which the Inspecting officer performed his duties, and the scrupulous regard for accuracy and probity in every detail. This will be particularly observed in the account he renders for the disbursing of the funds necessary to his journey, and in his providing his own stores, although he was engaged in the public service and was using a government vessel.

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I determined to embrace that opportunity of trying the effects of the sea air upon my impaired constitution, and, accordingly, having sent on board the patriot a sufficiency stores for the trip, I embarked in her myself at 5 o'clock this morning, and at 7 arrived at Hampton, where we stayed about 5 hours; then set sail for the capes, but the wind blowing fresh from the east we did not accomplish it 'til Saturday, 18th. In short, after beating about in the Chesapeake several days, taking care every night to anchor in one of the inlets or smaller bays, we returned to Norfolk on the 20th, without answering the ends proposed, either by discovering any contraband trade being carried on in those small bays and little rivers which make into the Chesapeake, as has been suspected, or receiving the least benefit myself in point of health. On the 21st, Mr. Stark went from Norfolk to Hampton in the Patriot, where he remained until the rigging of that vessel was repaired, in order to cross the Bay on a visit of Inspection of the naval officers and searchers on the Eastern shore. On the 23d, after having laid in a sufficiency of stores, &c., for myself, as heretofore, he says he set sail for Cherrystone harbour, at 6 o'clock in the morning, but was twenty-four hours crossing. On the 24th landed, and was most hospitably entertained at Col. Savage's, and on Saturday, the 25th, having procured horses, he set out for the naval office kept at Northampton C. House. Upon examination he found all the books required by the Executive were kept, except the book of Invoices, and nearly in the manner and form pointed out by the Instructions. Irregularities were pointed out, but not one of the books were bound; but the naval officer promised to provide such at once, also one for entering invoices also, in accordance with the order of Council of 27th July, 1786. He promised also to provide a Book for entering Deposit, as required, whenever any goods were deposited. This, however, had never yet occurred in his District, because no strangers had ever traded there. His bonds and papers of the office were tied up in bundles and put into a chest, his salary not being adequate to his procuring the proper *presses for this purpose, &c. The naval officer Mr. Savage, lived 6 or 7 miles from the place where the office was kept, but, upon inquiry, it was found the business was promptly done by a careful young gentleman and the superintendance of Mr. Isaac Smith. Continues: "I observed to him, that as his not residing on the spot was a violation of the law, I considered myself bound to report the matter to the Executive. His reply was, that he hoped the letter of the law would not, in his case, be rigidly insisted upon, being confident he had orderded matters in such a manner that no individual whatever could possibly derive the smallest inconvenience or delay in their business from his non-residence. He alleged that it was an invariable rule to sign every permit, certificate, &c., &c., with his own hand." 1787.

*Called, in more modern days, "book-cases," being upright receptacles, provided with shelves, doors, &c., for the preservation of bound and other records, and books generally.

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1787. Mr. Jacobs, the gentleman commissioned Searcher at Cherrystones, I also had an opportunity of conversing with this day, who assured me he had offered to qualify under his commission at the preceeding Court, but it was judged illegal, being quarter Term, but that he would most certainly undertake the execution of the office at the succeeding court in September, give bond according to law and transmit a copy thereof as speedily as possible to the Executive. I then recommended vigilance and activity in the discharge of his several duties, particularly in remeasuring vessels, as there was good reason to suspect the public was much injured in the article of Tonnage.

In the evening I set out from Northampton Court House for Onancock, being informed that the naval office for Accomack District was kept at that place. Went on my journey thither about 8 miles, and lodged that night at Mr. John Savage's, by particular invitation.

Sunday, 26th.—Set off early this morning on my journey to Onancock, which I reached about one o'clock P. M. After recovering from the fatigue of my journey and taken a little refreshment, I walked out and fell into company with Mr. Gibb, the naval officer, who, I found, resided and kept the naval office at Onancock, one of the ports of delivery, instead of Accomack Court House, as the law directed. I observed to him the illegality of such conduct, and the obligation I was under of reporting the matter to the Executive. He plead in excuse for this non-observance of the law, that he had acted several years as deputy clerk of Accomack, long before his appointment to the naval office, and resided the whole time in Onancock, where the records of the County have been kept for a great number of years, and from whence he presumed they would never be removed; that he stills holds the office of Deputy Clerk, which obliges him to continue where the Records of the County are deposited, and he could not think of relinquishing that lucrative office for the trifling emoluments of the naval office, and therefore should be under the disagreeable necessity, in justice to a growing family, of resigning the latter in case the Executive should insist upon an immediate compliance with the letter of the law. But he hoped when it was considered that the business had gone on as heretofore, several months since the last naval office law took effect, without a single person being subjected to any inconvenience thereby, or a single murmur being heard respecting it, that they would be so indulgent as to suspend coming to any determination thereupon until after the rising of the next assembly; for he expected some new regulation would take place in the police of Accomack, either by restoring the naval office to the Town and Port of Onancock, or removing the County records from Onancock to Accomack Courthouse, both of which he understood would be petitioned for.

After the conversation upon the subject above related was over, the naval officer requested I would enter upon the examination of his office that afternoon, observing that he should be very busy all next day preparing the papers, &c., &c., for their quarterly court, which was to set on

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Tuesday following; being thus circumstanced I yielded to his solici- 1787.
tations, though with reluctance, as it was Sunday.

Upon examination I found he had prepared the five books directed by the Executive, and kept them nearly in the form prescribed by the Instructions. I pointed out to him the few variations therefrom, which he promised to rectify. Not one of the Books were bound, but he engaged to provide *such* as quickly as possible. No presses were provided for securing the books and papers, he making use of the same plea for this neglect that Mr. Savage had done; however, I observed he made use of thr County presses for that purpose.

I found, by a misapprehension of the Compact law, he had violated it in two instances, by demanding the tonnage on two Maryland vessels under 50 Tons, to the amount of £4. 12. I directed him to return this money by the first opportunity, and make the best apology he could to the injured persons. Upon the whole, I was well satisfied with Mr. Gibbs' conduct, and consider him as a very sensible, judicious man, and am convinced, as a public officer, very anxious to have the impost laws carried fully into execution. The Book, directed 27th July last by the Executive, for entering deposits, he considered as useless, the duties being constantly paid down or bonded in that district. However, if it should hereafter be found necessary, he would take care to provide and keep it in the manner and form prescribed.

Mr. Oldham, the person appointed Searcher at Onancock, I found had qualified under his Commission, but had failed to give bond. I enjoined him to comply with that essential part of the law at the succeeding court, which he promised to do without fail, or resign.

The latter is to be wished for, for an hour's conversation I had with the two men fully convinced me that Mr. Sherlock, who had been commissioned Searcher at Folly's Landing (but residing at Onancock was thereby rendered ineligible, and had returned his Commission rather than remove), was greatly to be preferred for an office of that nature.

I then gave Mr. Oldham the same admonition, respecting the duties of his office, I had given to Mr. Jacob, the Searcher at Cherrystones; and thus terminated my enquiries, &c., at the different offices on the Eastern Shore.

Monday, 27th.—Set off from Onancock about 9 o'clock this morning on my return to Colonel Savage's, which I reached about twilight, and staid there all night.

Teusday, 28th.—Early this morning went on board the patriot, who I found had been lying at the mouth of Cherrystones the four days of my absence, not being able to get out of the harbour on a cruize, as was intended by Capt. Taylor, by means of contrary winds, but having shifted to a more favourable point this morning. Immediately upon my getting on board we weighed anchor, and after two hours' hard labour, and much difficulty in avoiding the shoals, we reached the deep water of Chesapeake. A favorable breeze for going into York river springing up about

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1787. the same time, I determined to go thither and examine the naval office of that place. Not considering it of any consequence whether it was done at this time, or a few days hence, after the commencement of *September*, tho' the Executive had been pleased to order that the examination thereof should not be before that month, but I trust that so favorable an opportunity of doing the business will plead my excuse for departing from the order of Council.

After an agreeable sail across the bay we reached York about 8 o'clock in the evening, and came to anchor in 5 fathom water near the town.

Wednesday, 29th.—At 6 o'clock this morning went on shore to the naval office, and upon examination found Mr. Archer, the naval officer, had provided the 5 books directed by the Executive in their first general instructions, and had kept them nearly in the form prescribed. The variations I pointed out, which I dare say he will attend to in future. Not one of the books were bound, but he faithfully promised to procure *such* immediately. The book for deposits he also is of opinion will be totally useless in his district. However, it should be provided, if found necessary hereafter, and kept together, with the book of Invoices, in the manner directed by the Executive, 27th July last.

I found there had been a very criminating literary correspondence carried on between Mr. Archer and the naval officer at Norfolk, or rather with Mr. Parker's Clerk, respecting the mode of granting permits to vessels entering at Norfolk, and going afterwards to York to deliver part of their cargoes. Although Mr. Archer was evidently right in the dispute, yet I did not choose to say so, but referred him to the Attorney-General for his advice in case Colo. Parker persisted in the error.

I was sorry to observe that he had, by a too strict adherence to the letter of last naval officers' law, fallen into violation of the 4th Section of the Compact law with Maryland, by demanding—in two instances of vessels under 50 Tons—the impost on their Seamen, and in other instances by obliging small vessels loaded with lumber from Maryland to go up to West point to unlade.

The money received from imposts on Seamen I directed him to restore as quickly as possible, and if he was not satisfied that the other matter was also a violation of the Compact, at least the spirit of it, to get the Attorney-General's opinion thereupon for his future government. No presses were provided for the books, &c., but seemed to be safely kept in a Writing Desk. He gave the same reason for not doing it that had been given by the naval officers on the Eastern Shore.

Having finished my examination at this office, I again went on board the patriot about 11 o'clock, and the wind and tide being both very favourable for going down the river, instantly weighed anchor and set sail for Hampton, which place we reached about 7 o'clock in the evening. I immediately went on shore to my friend, Mr. Miles King's, where I continued with my family 'til Saturday, 1st Sept.

Friday, 31st.—I, this morning, visited the naval office at this place, and

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found Mr. Wray had provided the *bound* books directed by the Executive, and had kept them, as to essentials, in the manner prescribed by the Instructions, except reciting in the book of clearances the manifests of Tobacco *verbatim*, but instead thereof, had referred to the manifests given in upon oath by the Captain, and those were carefully filed away and in due order. He observed that inserting every Manifest of Tobacco *verbatim* in the book of clearances, viz: mark and no., gross, nett and tare, and the shipper's name, would swell the entry to an enormous and troublesome length, as it certainly would, and presumed that the reference above mentioned would answer every necessary purpose, and I feel myself rather leaning to this opinion. In a word, I cannot but consider this gentleman, notwithstanding his singularity, as a valuable public officer. No presses were provided for the Books and papers, giving the same reason for it that the other naval officers had done; but the House being strong, with shelves in different parts, on which the books and papers were arranged in tolerable order, they appeared to be as safe as a wood fabrick will admit of. Presses would certainly have a much better appearance, and whenever the books and papers become very numerous will be absolutely necessary, as they can be so much quicker removed in case of an accident by fire. 1787.

Having finished at this office, I returned to Mr. King's to dinner, and being informed by Capt. Taylor that he intended over to Norfolk the next day in the Patriot on public business, I determined to embrace that opportunity of returning thither with my family, and accordingly went on board of her this morning, Saturday, Sept. 1st, about 9 o'clock, immediately weighed anchor and set for Norfolk, but the wind being very unfavorable, and the Tide meeting us about 4 miles from the town, were obliged to come to and wait 'til the next flood, and that making late in the evening, put it out of our power to reach the harbour before dark, about which time a heavy rain coming on obliged us to stay on board all night; the next morning, early, went on shore to Capt. Moseley's.

Teusday, Sept. 4th.—This forenoon went over to Portsmouth, in order to examine into the proceedings of the Searcher at that place. I found he had got all his permits folded, or rather rolled promiscuously together, and secured in a locked Desk, but not one of them registered, as required by the instructions of the Executive. He alledged, in excuse for this neglect of duty, that it had not been in his power to procure paper large enough for the purpose, but was in daily expectation of receiving a bound book, sufficiently large, from Baltimore, and when it arrived would certainly enter therein all the permits in due order and agreeable to the forms prescribed.

It having been hinted to me, upon my first getting down to Norfolk, that several American vessels had been entered at much less tonnage than they would really measure, I gave him a pointed caution upon that subject, for I found upon enquiry he had been inattentive to the matter, notwithstanding the charge in his instructions, owing, in all probability, to his

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1787. not being entitled to any part of the penalty for concealed tonnage. The examination at this office, if it can with propriety be called one, being finished, I returned to Norfolk to dinner.

Friday, 7th Sept.—This forenoon went to visit the naval officer at Norfolk in a formal manner, and upon examination found all the books directed by the Executive, as well as those by the *last* and the *first* instructions were provided, except the book for entering Invoices, which he promised to procure immediately and have kept in the manner directed by the last Instructions of 27th July. The Books were only half bound, which he seemed to think had been sufficiently expensive, unless the Assembly would consent to its being a public charge. They were kept nearly in the manner prescribed by the Instructions. Wherever there was a variation I pointed it out to Colo. Parker, who promised to conform more exactly thereto in future. A Press was provided for the papers of office, such as bonds, &c., &c., which were properly arranged, bundled up and put away, but there being none for the books, they appeared to be left sometimes upon a Writing Desk, sometimes in one appartment of the office, and sometimes in another, upon tables, just as it suited the clerk's ease and convenience, but being a strong house, I presume they are sufficiently secure in any part thereof. During my stay at Norfolk I had several times observed that the instructions, respecting the office being opened early, was not attended to by his clerks. This inattention I took notice of to Colo. Parker, who promised there should be a more punctual observance thereof, but having understood that he seldom came to the office himself at very early hour, it is to be feared there will be no great amendment in that particular. After having finished the necessary examination (as I judged) at the naval office, I returned to Capt. Moseley's to dinner, and after dinner visited Mr. Graves's office (the Searcher at Norfolk), where I made some discoveries, not apprized of, when on my visit to the naval office in the forenoon. I found the Searcher had provided a half-bound book, of a proper size, for registering permits, which he had done in the manner and form required by his instructions.

The permits themselves were judiciously filed away in monthly order. Upon examination of these permits I made the discoveries just alluded to. First, of several permits being issued from the naval office, directed to him, to attend to the delivery of vessels' whole cargoes, though it was known that a partial delivery thereof was intended at Norfolk, and afterwards sending copies thereof, that is, of whole cargoes, directed to the searcher at City point, though it was notorious that much the greatest part was delivered at Norfolk, thus falling into the absurdity of having the same cargo fully entered in the Searcher's office at Norfolk, and also in the Searcher's office at City point. I also observed, noted at the foot of some of these permits, allowances of dutiable articles for stores much too liberal in my opinion. I found that Mr. Graves' bond, for the faithful discharge of his office, had not been executed in the particular manner which it seems the court required. I enjoined him to have it done at the

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succeeding court without fail, for I doubted whether his actings and doings were legal until the bond was approved by the court and admitted to record. The reason of this bond being in this imperfect state, is that the late Captain Barron had been put into it as one of the securities, but was prevented from attending to sign and acknowledge it by his last illness, and the court refused to receive the other security alone. It appeared to have been offered to the court for their approbation in due time, was executed by himself and one security, and has remained with the clerk ever since. I gave him also a caution respecting the imposition on the public in the article of Tonnage. I cannot forbear adding that, from my own observation of this officer's conduct, I consider him as the most active and vigilant I had met with. Having now finished the inquiries I wished to make at the searcher's office, and being after sunset, I returned to my usual lodgings. 1787.

Saturday, 8th.—The information obtained last evening at the searcher's office, led me again to the naval office this morning, and, in a short time, convinced Colo. Parker of the impropriety of issuing permits in the manner already mentioned, and he readily agreed in those cases where part of a vessel's cargo only was to be delivered at Norfolk, and the remainder up James River, to issue two sets of permits, in each of which to be entered only the packages intended for each place. One of these sets (viz., two) to be directed to the searcher at Norfolk, the other set to the searcher at City Point or Bermuda Hundred, as the case may be, and the searcher at Norfolk to be furnished with a copy of the last mentioned for his full information of the whole cargo where the vessel broke bulk. The other matter of stores he rather persisted in, and, indeed, seemed to think himself not at liberty by the instructions to refuse anything asked for on that score, but expressed an earnest wish that the Executive would define that matter, as he had been sometimes embarrased concerning it.

I then mentioned to him a matter which the searcher suggested to me, and by which a villianous Captain had it in his power frequently to impose upon the public. The naval office law directs that one permit shall be delivered to the Captain, open at the time of Entry, and a copy thereof be inclosed and directed to the searcher; this letter to be delivered to the captain also. Now, as it often happens in the hurry of business, that these letters were delivered out of the naval office before the seal was half dry, and wafers being always made use of, nothing was easier than to open it when in that wet state and add to the inclosed permit, in the case of barrels of sugar or hogsheads of rum, a single figure, taking care to make the alterations correspond with the number on board, and thus get permission of the searcher to land double or treble the number of barrels or hogsheads actually entered at the naval office, thereby saving the duty on the quantity not entered; and this piece of villiany I found could be practiced without any risk of immediate detection, for an addition of one or two figures on the left would answer the purpose, it being customary to fill up the permits with figures in such cargoes as rum and sugar. I advised

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1787. Colo. Parker, as the best expedient which occurred to me, invariably to have the paper which covered permits well impressed with the seal of office, and then if any attempt was made to open them the impression would thereby be so defaced as to excite suspicion in the searcher, and possibly lead to an immediate discovery of the intended fraud.

Sept. 8th.—Capt. Taylor having signified to me that the £50 drawn by him on account when at Richmond, for discharging contingent expences of the two State boats, was nearly expended, the said boats being destitute of almost every necessary at the time he took charge of them. As this was a matter which came under my own observation, I took the Liberty of requesting Colo. Parker to furnish him with £20 or £30, in case he should find so much absolutely necessary for the above purposes before next quarter day. The Capt. also, at the same time, expressed a desire of taking passage in a vessel about to sail this day from Norfolk to Rappahannock, for the purpose of visiting his family and give the necessary orders for their removal to Hampton, and having asked my opinion of the matter, I could not petend to give a sanction to such a step, not being authorized to do so, but could not forbear saying that, in my opinion, an indulgence of 10 or 12 days upon such an occasion was due to a good, attentive officer, and as there was a probability of Capt. James getting well enough in a few days to take command of the Patriot, which I understood he had directed him to do immediately upon his being able, and to cruise in the bay 'til his return, I could not conceive that any inconvenience of consequence could flow from his absence so short a time, especially as it was at a season of the year when there were very few arrivals.

The Patriot being thus left without any commissioned officer, Lieut. Barron, being on the Potomack station, and Capt. James sick at Hampton, consequently not in a proper situation to make a cruise, I thought it best to embrace this opportunity of going up in her, in order to visit the searchers at City point and Bermuda Hundreds, to return under the command of the pilot, a very prudent, discreet young man, and to whom Capt. Taylor himself had given the charge of her before he went away, at least until Capt. James was able to go on aboard.

I judged it much more eligible to do this than to have her lying either in Norfolk or Hampton harbour, exposed to the worm, especially as there would be a small saving to the public, for by going up in her I should not think myself justifiable in charging more than the time actually engaged in examining the two offices. Whereas if I had paid my passage thither in any other Vessel, should have considered myself at liberty to charge that in addition to the days of examination.

Sept. 8th.—Having taken my leave (after returning from the naval office) of my friends in Norfolk, I embarked with my family on board the Patriot about 11 o'clock, a sufficiency of stores going with us, as usual, and after an agreeable sail up James River reached City Point Sunday evening a little after dark.

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Monday 9th.—Went on shore early this morning and entered upon the examination of the searcher's office at City point. I found he had provided a half-bound book of the proper size for registering permits, but no entry made therein. I observed his mode of registering permits heretofore was not agreeable to the form in the Searcher's instructions, alleging, in excuse for an unmeaning departure therefrom, that he once made a return to the Auditor in the manner prescribed by the Executive, but he refused to receive it. In this I am pretty confident he must be mistaken. However, I directed him in future to follow the instructions received from the Executive, without variation in form or substance. He informed me had never received from the Norfolk Naval officer an impression of that seal, though Colo. Parker assured me he had sent it to him; he had received it from the Hampton Naval Office. I observed several permits in this office issued from the naval office at norfolk, in which the amount of the duties was not entered, and in others nothing mentioned as an allowance for stores, though the searcher informed me the Captains invariably insisted upon stores at the time of unloading, which had embarrassed him very much in several instances. 1787.

The permits themselves were bundled up and kept in a chest. I also gave him a caution respecting the remeasuring of vessels.

Sept. 9th.—Having finished here, I got Mr. Roan's boat and went over to the Searcher's Office at Bermuda Hundred, where I found a book of the proper size for registering permits was prepared and kept in the manner and form prescribed by the instructions, but it was not even half-bound. I directed him to transmit an attested copy of his bond to the Executive without further delay. He informed me he had not received an impression of the naval Office Seal, either from Hampton or Norfolk. The naval officers at those two places assured me they had been sent. I also gave him a caution concerning the remeasurement of Vessels. The permits themselves were at this office secured in the same manner as at City point. After this examination was over I returned to Mr. R'd Eppes' at City Point, it being then about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, discharged the Patriot, borrowed a row-boat and set off with my family up Appomattox river on my way to Petersburg.

NOTE.—It appeared to me from the conversation I had with the officers and searchers that not one of them had made himself acquainted with the Acts of Assembly recommended to their perusal and attention by the Executive; indeed, I much doubt whether they had ever looked into one-half of them. And from other observations I am convinced that nothing but frequent visits and occasionally a little rigour will bring them to a punctual compliance with the instructions.

Upon taking a review of the foregoing journal, it appears I was actually engaged in examining the naval offices in Northampton, Accomack and York, and the Searchers at City Point and Bermuda hundred, about four days, including the time necessarily employed in travelling from one

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1787. office to the other on the Eastern Shore, And expended about £3. in liquors and provisions put on board the Patriot, for my Stores when going *to* and *from* those several officers—This sum being equal to four days wages. I think myself justifiable in charging for 8 days service, and shall do so, making in the whole charge the sum of six pounds. The remaining £6., advanced to me by Order of the Executive as a visitor to the naval officers, &c., I shall return to the Treasury. The time employed in examining the offices at Hampton, Norfolk and Portsmouth, I make no charge for, as I should have visited those places for private purposes.

I am, your Excellency's
Obed't humble Serv't,
B. STARK.

1788. REPORT OF A COMMITTEE

January 1st General Assembly To whom had been referred the Report on the Treasurer's Accounts, &c. Previous to the discovery of the Deficiency communicated by the Treasurer himself to the General Assembly, the total receipts at the Treasury amounted to £1,403,556. 18. 4½., of which £387.261. 2. 10¼ was in Specie; the remainder was received in Warrants and Certificates taken in discount for Taxes, and in Tobacco, Hemp and Deer Skins. The deficiency referred to was found to be £2,916. 6s. 1d., and occurred either from a loss of Certificates, or of Specie, or from some error or mistake in the sale or transfer of the various articles of produce received in payment of Taxes. The conduct of the Treasurer had been such as gave evidence of a most decided and incontrovertible proof of his integrity, and the present mode of keeping the Accounts of the Treasury under the late Law, is such, that no mistake of the like nature can ever happen again. After full investigation, it was determined by the Gen'l Assembly that the Treasurer be allowed to make payment of the aforesaid Sum of £2,916. 6. 1. in any of the Securities of this State, which carry an interest of six pounds per Centum, &c. Whereupon, Jacquelin Ambler, Treasurer, entered into Bond, in the sum of Five thousand, eight hundred and thirty-two pounds, twelve shillings and two pence, John Ambler and John Marshall being his sureties, to make good this deficiency by two several equal payments, one on 10th January, 1789, and the latter on the 10th January, 1790. This Bond was signed and sealed in presence of Alex. K. Marshall. The amount in full duly paid as appears by the endorsements on this Report and Bond.

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ELISHA WHITE TO GOV. RANDOLPH, 1788.

Protesting against the reinstatement of Bartlotte Anderson as a magistrate in Hanover, and expressing his willingness to reopen the investigation of the dirty business, especially with reference to Anderson's connection with the Warehouses at New Castle or Hanover Town, &c. January 1st Hanover county

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JERMAN BAKER TO THE GOVERNOR, January 1st

Expressing his inability to do more than to confer occasionally with the Commissioner for settling the accounts between the State and the U. States, and thus to give such instructions as might be useful to him, &c. Archer's Hill

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ARTHUR CAMPBELL, SAML. EDMISTON, ANDREW COWAN, AND THOS. CARTER TO GOV. RANDOLPH. January 3d

Sir:

We beg leave to submit the following answers to the queries Your Excellency was pleased to favour us with yesterday: Richmond

Ans. 1st. That only one Troop of Horse are necessary to each Regiment—and in some Counties that might be dispensed with—and the appointment of Officers for these may be deferred until recommendations comes from the respective Counties.

2nd. We believe six scouts will be sufficient for Washington and Russell; four for Montgomery, and the like number for Greenbrier.

3rd. We hope that at least one full Company of Rangers, under an experienced Officer, will be allowed to do duty towards the Ohio, and, if attacks are apprehended from the Southern Indians, another Company may be necessary in Powell's Valley and on Clinch. Or the last mentioned Company might be raised by occasional drafts from the Militia or Detachments from the Light Companys of Washington, Montgomery and Russell.

We believe it would be an improvement were the Ranging Companys of one-half musket men, their guns and Bayonets to be of a neat and light construction, something similar to those used by the British Highland Regiments when in America.

The Scouts ought occasionally to attend the Ranging Companys. And if Indians were to be pursued over the Ohio, Horsemen, properly armed, would be the most useful. These are cursury thoughts; perhaps a more perfect plan and more economical might be formed, should your Excellency judge it proper to leave the consideration of the subject to a Council of the Field Officers of the three South Western Counties, to meet in February, except as to Scouts, which, we think, ought to be ordered into service in February or early in March.

We have the honor to be, Sir,
with great respect, Y'r most ob't Serv't.

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1788. ELECTION OF FOUR ADDITIONAL JUDGES OF THE GENERAL COURT

January 4th House of Delegates — By joint ballot of both Houses. Mr. Nicholas, Mr. Clay, Mr. Bushrod Washington, Mr. Mason, Mr. Ronald, Mr. Zane, Mr. Norvell, and Mr. Bland, the Committee to meet a Committee of the Senate to examine the Ballot-Boxes, which, having been done in the Conference chamber, it was found that there was a majority of votes in favor of Joseph Prentis, Gabriel Jones, Saint George Tucker, and Richard Parker, Esquires.

January 4th — THOMAS UNDERWOOD TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

In regard to certain claims of individuals against the State, left in the hands of the Honorable Mr. Jones. The one in the name of Gen'l Clark is for supplys furnish'd the Troops under his Command in the western Country, and I have been inform'd that Gent'm. accutally sold his property at a low rate to procure those supplys. For this claim I did expect to have rec'd some paym't out of the Fund arising from the Tax on patented Land in the Western Country, agreeable to the Laws of appropriation in the year 1784, &c.

January 5th — CONCERNING THE DEFENCE OF THE WESTERN WATERS

Richmond — The following communications have been received:

COUNTIES. *	Delegates from.	Horse to be raised.	Number of Scouts.	Rangers.
Ohio	Wm. McMachen, A. Woods, Wm. McCleery	Half a troop	Six	Sixty, exclusive of officers.
Monongalia	Chas. Martin	Half a troop	Six	Forty-five " " "
Harrison and Randolph	J. P. Duvall, J. Prunty, G. Jackson	No Horse necessary.	10 Scouts.	60 men " " "
Washington	A. Campbell, S. Edmondson	.....	6 Scouts.	100 men " " "
Montgomery	.....			
Russell	Andrew Cowan, Thos. Carter	.....	4 Scouts.	50 men " " "
Bourbon, Fayette	Dan'l Boone, T. Marshall, J. Fowler, j'n'r	.....	.....	They think that the whole ought to be submitted to a Board of Officers.
Mercer	.....	.....	.....	.....
Madison	Thos. Kennedy	.....	.....	One Company.
†Nelson	C. Harrison	Two Troops	.....	1 Company of Rangers.
Jefferson	A. Field	One Troop	.....	2 Companies.
Greenbriar	G. Clendenin	.....	6 Scouts.	.....

* To the Legislature from said Counties.

† In Kentucky, cut off from Jefferson Co. in 1784.

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The Delegates from Kentucky, D. Boone, T. Marshall, and J. Fowler, Jr., inform the Executive that the number of militia necessary to defend the frontier of that District will depend upon the vigor with which the savages may carry on the war. They therefore recommend that the matter be left to a meeting of the Feild Officers of the District, to be called by the County Lieutenant. Most of the cavalry in that country were volunteers; had selected their own officers subject to the general militia law, and they therefore decline to recommend any. The arms sent out in the Spring of 1787 were generally unfit for service, and not a single scabbord, belt, cartrid'e box or flint came with them. 1788. January 5th

George Clendenen, the delegate from Greenbriar, gave his opinion that the Indians would continue their hostilities in the ensuing Spring, and therefore gave the following information upon the subject of general defence, &c.

From the place where the State Road, which is now finished, strikes the Kanawa to the mouth thereof, is Eighty miles, in which bounds are four Small Stations, consisting of about Ten families each, one of which is situated at the mouth of the Great Kanawa, on the Greenbrier side of the River; another at the mouth of Coal River, a branch of the Great Kanawa on the Montgomery side. One other at John Morrises, about seventeen miles above Coal, on the same side of the River, and the other at the place where the State Road strikes the Kanawa, all of which places are situated to give equal defence to either of the aforesaid Counties. I am to inform your Excellency that I conceive sixty men would be sufficient, to be equally divided between the Four Stations, subject, nevertheless, to be moved or shifted as the necessity may require. Before I take leave of this subject, permit me to inform you that I think nature has formed this place for one of the richest Settlements that has ever yet been made on any part of our Western territory. The River Kanawa afording such great quantities of the first rate Low grounds (with an excellent Salt Lick), to which is added almost every kind of fish and wild fowls that are to be found on any part of the Continent, with numerous herds of wild game, which are at this time only enjoyed by a set of Barbarous Savages, who make it their Hunting Ground, and do Kill and plunder our Citizens at will, who are from necessity or otherwise settlers on that Fertile Spot.

There is another consideration which, with me, has great weight why that Territory should be guarded and Immediately settled. When we consider the numerous Train of people which emigrates every year to the Westward, and the length of time they are detained at Red Stone and Fort Pitt for the Rising of the Water to carry them away, and also that this navigation is at least one hundred miles nearer and cuts off three Hundred miles by water, and the navigation sufficient to carry them off at any time, these Benefits alone would be sufficient to ingagé every person who migrated to the westward to take this Rout, provided the place was so populated as to furnish Boats and other necessaries for their use; and as it will ever be ye Interest of those who may settle on that quarter to

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1788. January 5th

continue with this State, I cannot hesitate to pronounce that you, as Guardians of the people, will take the earliest measures to procure Inhabitants and to make them as rich and Respectable as possible.

The Delegates from Monongalia and *Ohio Counties, upon enquiries having been made of them, give their opinion that both of these counties can be defended by one Troop of Horse, but will require Six scouts or spies each, and for the following reasons: In Monongalia there is three principal inlets that the Indians useth to come into that county, requiring two spies for each. In Ohio two will be needed to watch from the mouth of Wheeling Creek to the Indian road that leads to the mouth of Whitewoman's Creek, where a number of Delawares did live. Two more from the Mingo Bottom to watch the road that leads to Sandusky, and the other two from the mouth of Yellow Creek to watch the road that leads to the Lakes. These Stations are about twenty miles from each other, on the Ohio River.

Sixty Rangers will be necessary for Ohio County, because it lies exposed along the Ohio River sixty-three miles, from the mouth of little Beaver Creek to the mouth of Grave Creek, all of which is settled along the river, and unless a chain of defence outside of them is fix'd a very considerable part of the Inhabitants will leave that country this Spring. For Monongalia it will take forty-five men to defend the frontier, which is at least forty miles from the Pennsylvania Line to the Harrison County Line. They also inform the Executive that there are in Ohio County Three hundred militia unarmed, and recommend that a supply of Arms and ammunition be sent to Morgan Town. The men should be kept in service from the 1st of March until 15th Oct., and authorized to range on both sides of the Ohio River.

The Delegates from Nelson, the settlements in which extended from the most northward branch of the Salt River to the Green River on the south, recommended Two Troops of Horse as being necessary and one company of Rangers. The Delegate (Abner Field) from Jefferson, Kentucky, informed the Executive that the enemy had carried off the most valuable of their horses, and therefore it would be difficult to raise a troop. He preferred, however, that two companies of Rangers should be organized, as the County of Jefferson is one Intire Frontier and liable to Invasion in its most secure Settlements.

The Delegates from Harrison and Randolph were of opinion that Horsemen would be of no use in those counties, as they say their Enemies in that part must be pursued in that still and Quiet manner in which they comes on their War against us. They think sixty Rangers under two Captains, both under the orders of the County Lieut. of Harrison, would cover the frontier of both Counties, as the distance from the Monongalia line along the Back Settlement of Harrison, and including the

*This county then occupied the whole of what is known as the Panhandle, now Ohio, Brooke, Marshall and Hancock counties.

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Exposed frontier of Randolph, is about seventy or Eighty miles. Ten Scouts or spies added would be necessary to watch the early movements of the Indians. 1788. January 5th

Upon further enquiry made of Mr. Clendenin, of Greenbrier, he insists that Horsemen will avail nothing in Montgomery or the county he represents. He had given already his reasons for this opinion, and now repeats that six scouts would be absolutely necessary for each of these counties, to be sent out in the month of February or March, as the Indians in that Quarter do mischief as soon as the Winter Breaks up, having occation for horses, &c., to carry off their skins and furs, for the Generally hunt and Trap near our Frontiers and very often on this side of the Ohio, &c.

From these sources of information it was concluded best that the steps recommended be taken. Blank commissions were sent out to the several named Counties, to be filled with the names of such persons as the local authorities should recommend as commandants of these troops, or of such as were recommended by the Delegates from some of the Counties. A committee appointed to make enquiries and estimates upon the aforesaid facts, report "that to guard an Extensive frontier subject to the Depredations of the Indians, it will be necessary to keep 180 men in Service, from the first of March to the first of Oct'r. The Expence of Supplying which number will amount to 800 Pounds, and that in this Estimate the District of Kentucky is not considered. Your Committee has reason to fear that the funds heretofore assigned for the above purpose may not prove productive as speedy as the Importance of the services Demand, and are of opinion that other funds ought to be assign'd in aid thereof.

Resolved therefore, as the opinion of this Committee, that to make good the aforesaid sum of 800 Pounds, so much of the money arising from the sum of 1,000 pounds of the revenue 1786, and from the like sum of the Revenue of 1787, Reserv'd subject to the votes of the Gen'l Assembly, shall be applied, after making good the sum voted for the support of the Hospital in the City of Williamsburg, and all former votes of the Assembly charged on said funds.

Teste: J. B., *C. H. D.*

T. Merriwether Reports to the Executive January 5th

That he has contracted with Mr. Welton to transport the ammunition ordered for Monongalia, Ohio, Harrison and Randolph Co.'s, and delivery by the 15th of May, for £160. The distance from Welton's to Randolph is 64 miles; from Welton's to Morgantown, 70 miles, and from Morgantown to Randolph, 70 m. Richmond

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1788. GOV'R WM. LIVINGSTON TO GOV'R RANDOLPH OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

January 9th Elizabeth Town, New Jersey

I do myself the honor of acquainting your Excellency that the State Convention of New Jersey has unanimously ratified the fœderal Constitution, and am, with the highest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant.

January 9th T. MERRIWETHER REPORTS TO THE EXECUTIVE

That he has examined the Pay-Rolls and Quarterly Returns of the Superintendent of Public magazines at Point of Fork, ending 31st Dec., 1787, and finds them correct, &c. A ballance of £125. 13. 8. is due to the Superintendent and artificers, and £72. 8. to the Guard. Two of the Public negroes had run off in December and are still absent. He recommends that the old stock of Produce be sold and the proceeds applied to the discharge of contingent demands.

January 9th BOND OF CHARLES LYNCH,

In the penalty of three hundred pounds current and lawfull money of Virginia, requiring him to replace to James McGavock, at Fort Chisel, in Montgomery, on or before the first day of May next, three Tuns of Lead borrowed from the Executive.

January 12th T. MERRIWETHER REPORTS TO THE EXECUTIVE

Richmond That all the County Lieutenants, except the Co. Lieut. of Henrico, are delinquent in failing to render to the Executive, on or before the 31st December last, an acc't, on oath, of all monies which have come into their hands by virtue of their office, and of their disbursements.

The Lieuts., or Commanding officers of fifty-three Counties, have failed to make a General Return, a few of whom, however, have sent by letter satisfactory excuses therefor. All the County Lieutenants and Command'g officers, except those of Amherst and Greensville, have failed to report the proceedings of their Courts of Enquiry and assessments of fines. Several Co. Lieutenants have *neglected* to transmit recommendations for many months. If punishable, he will report them specially, &c.

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J. DIXON TO THE EXECUTIVE, 1788.

Offering to print the Laws of the late session of assembly in seven weeks from the time they are begun. They can be printed quicker in one office than in three, &c. January 12th Richmond

J. AMBLER, TREASURER, January 12th

Reports to the Executive the amount of the Taxes received on slaves for the year 1786, £55,901. 19. 0., of which £9,563. 5. 3. have been applied to Requisitions of Congress, and £34,278. 10. 5. to the discharge of the Interest on army debt, Remain'g in the Treasury in crop and Trasnfer Tobacco, £12,060. 3. 4. Treasury office

ANDREW RÉ TO THE EXECUTIVE, January 12th

Praying to be allowed the sum of £281 for his arrears of Pay and Rations as Surgeon in the Illinois Regiment, from 1st Jan'y, 1782, to 14th Jan'y, 1783, inclusive, &c.

GEO. CLENDENIN TO GOV. RANDOLPH. January 14th

Having observed that in the operations for defence of the Frontier of Greenbrier, contracts are to be awarded for funishing the necessary supplies, and having perfect confidence in the financial arrangements by which it is to be done, he would cheerfully make the advances which the necessity of the case requires, but he is not able to do so. As the officer and person upon whom the responsibility of providing for the defence of the exposed and distressed Inhabitants along an extensive frontier will depend, he urges the absolute necessity of immediate action on this subject. He is disposed to take a small contract himself for furnishing supplies, knowing as he does the difficulty of persuading persons living three hundred miles from the Capital, who have little confidence in the Government's ability to pay, to advance the rations required. He will leave Richmond the next morning, and will be happy to receive an answer from his Excellency. Richmond

JOSEPH MARTIN TO GOV. RANDOLPH, OF VA., January 16th

Giving him some accounts of Indian affairs in the south and S. west. Colo. Bledsoe, who lives at Cumberland, had called on him on his way from the assembly of N. Carolina, and informed him he had seen an Express from Cumberland at Hillsborough from his brother, in Sumner County, informing him that a short time before he left the Indians had Henry county

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1788. made an attack at the Colo.'s Station, had wounded and carried off per-
January 16th sons; had also attacked other parts of the country and killed about ten persons. Spies had been out and discovered large encampments of them along Elk River. In December last they killed and scalpt Stephen English, near Laurel River, on the Kentucky Road; also Wm. English and a young woman on Holston, took a woman and four children, &c. From their going down the river in canoes, it is suspected they were Cherokees. He expects to set out for Georgia in a few days, and will pass quite through the Cherokee Country, will attend their Councils and will find out what their intentions are for the ensuing Spring.

Since writing the above, he has rec'd a dispatch from Tugola of the 2d Jan'y, saying that the Indians had, a few nights before Christmass, made an incursion into that country, had killed several men, women and children, and had gone off towards the middle settlement of the Cherokees. They had carried of some of Martin's horses, but the negroes got safely into Cleaveland's Fort.

January 22d GEO. CATLETT,

Port Royal, Caroline county Having heard that a Searcher was to be appointed for that place, lately made a Port for vessels to deliver their cargoes, applies to the Executive for the appointment, &c.

January 22d SAML. JOHNSTON, GOV. OF N. CAROLINA TO THE GOV. OF VIRG'A.

Sir:

Edenton Your letter of the 27th December, with the Act of the Legislature of Virginia concerning the Convention to be held in June next, did not reach me till this day. The Legislature of this State having been prorogued on the 22d December last, I had not the pleasure of communicating to them the Friendly Attention of the State of Virginia to the Interests of her Sister States by laying before them that Act.

I have the Honor to be, with the highest Respect, Sir,

Y'r Excellency's most ob't Humble Servant.

January 23d CHAS. THOMSON TO THE GOV'R OF VIRGINIA,

Office of Secretary of Congress Informing him that on monday last seven States Assembled, namely: Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina. From N. Hampshire came Mr. Gilman, from Connecticut Mr. Wadworth, from N. Carolina Mr. White, and from Georgia Mr. Baldwin.

On the 22d, Congress proceeded to the election of a President, whereupon His Excellency, Cyrus Griffin, was chosen, &c.

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GOV. SAML. HUNTINGTON TO GOV. RANDOLPH OF VA. 1788

Sir:

I have been honoured with your Excellency's two letters of the 14th of November and 27th of December, covering the several Acts of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia, to which they respectively refer. January 23d Norwich

I do myself the honour to acquaint your Excellency that on the 9th instant the Convention of this State ratified the fœderal Constitution by a majority of more than three to one.

With Sentiments of the highest respect,
I have the honour to be
Y'r Excellency's humble Serv't.

GOVERNOR SAMUEL JOHNSTON January 25th

Acknowledges the receipt of a letter from the Governor of Virginia on the 17th inst., enclosing a copy of the Resolution of the Legislature of Virginia concerning the boundary line between the two States, together with an Act for cutting a navigable Canal from the Waters of Elizabeth River, in Virginia, to the Waters of Pasquotank River in N. Carolina, both of which he will take the earliest opportunity of laying before the General Assembly, &c. Edenton, North Carolina

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M. OSTER, F. CONSUL, TO THE EXECUTIVE, January 27th

Pressing the claim of a French Subject, who having embarked in his own vessel for the West Indies, lost said vessel, and took passage in an American vessel to Virginia in order to carry out certain instructions given by his brother, the owner of the lost vessel. With him came three slaves, and certain merchandize imported in the American vessel. These slaves and the goods were the property of the owner of the lost vessel, who has since died, and his surviving brother to secure them, placed them in charge of the Captain of the vessel in which he came to America. This officer now not only refuses to surrender them, but has carried them away into the country, &c. As in duty to the Subjects of His Most Christian Majesty he calls upon the Executive of Virginia to aid him in reclaiming this property, &c. Norfolk

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ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO THE EXECUTIVE, January 28th

In regard to the great difficulty under which he is laboring in settling the accounts of the several Departments with the United States. His researches have not been attended always with success; and should they think that he is not to be limited in his scope after usefull information, he begs to be Richmond

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1788. January 28th instructed how he is to proceed, so that should he err, it will not be from design; Asks for Counsel to whom he may apply for advice in the arduous and almost ineffectual effort to decide upon the validity of the multifarious claims and charges that come before him. He pledges his word to do all he can in the business; and requests that a search may be made in the several offices of Government for such papers as may assist in making out correctly the Continental Account.

January 29th

ARTHUR LEE TO GOV'R ED. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Richmond, Virginia

My colleagues at the board of Treasury, impressed with the strongest convictions of the distressed state of the federal finances, and how much they relied for support upon the exertions of this State, requested me to represent to Your Excellency and the Council the apprehensions they were under that some lately adopted measures wou'd deprive the federal government of that aid in money which is immediately necessary to its existence. Their utmost exertions, with the funds now in their hands, can maintain it only till the close of the present quarter, which will end the first of April next. For feeding the Army they have been obliged to give orders in anticipation upon the Receivers of the States of Jersey, Pensylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. The warrant on this State is for 10,000 Dollars. Unless this be paid the contractor will not supply the rations, and the army must speedily disband or starve. The Board, having information that both specie and tobacco had been paid into the Treasury on the general and special requisitions, relied on payment being made to the Continental Loan Officers in discharge of the requisition for 1786, in time to answer their order and other indispensible calls of the federal government. For tho' Congress had repealed the special requisition, yet it was in expectation that the monies which had arisen from it would be paid on the general requisition, and the board had actually applied monies received on the general requisition to the payment of the troops rais'd in this State on the special one. This was done from a confidence that the specie received on the special requisition wou'd be applied to the use of the U. S.

In this situation, a proposition is made to the Continental L. Officer to receive Tobacco in discharge of a part of what has been due on the requisition of 1786, at a valuation far beyond the present or any probable price of that commodity. The loss which the U. S. would suffer by the acceptance of this offer, tho' considerable, wou'd be small when compared with the injuriousness of such a precedent.

Permit me, Sir, to observe that if Virginia shou'd pay her specie requisition in tobacco, not at the current, but at an arbitrary price, that the other States will be equally entitled to pay wheat, flour, rice, Indigo, or any other Commodity, at the price they may be pleased to affix to them. Under such modes of payment, it is obvious that neither the purposes of

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the existing requisitions cou'd be answered; nor cou'd Congress, by any possible conjecture, proportion their requisitions on the States to the demands of the federal governmnnt. This proposition, then, plain and inevitably, leads to a total anarchy, if the expression may be permitted, in the federal finances. Your Excellency will suffer me to hope, that as I am sure this was not the intention of the Executive, they will not urge an offer that so unavoidably leads to it. The greater the distress of the U. S. is, from the delinquences of its members, the less it becomes the dignity and character of this, its principal member, to press the confederation to its ruin. The Union has no concern with the arrangements between the Legislature of the State and its citizens; and as they cannot derive any advantage, neither ought they to suffer any inconvenience from them. Therefore, without questioning the wisdom of such arrangements, I may be permitted to say that they can never justify a deviation from the payments which are equally due in good faith and in policy from the State to the U. S. 1788. January 29th

At the same time I am persuaded that your Excellency and the rest of the Executive have been govern'd in the proposition you have made by reasons of great weight and moment to the interests of the State you have the honor to represent. But if I have been so fortunate as to satisfy you that such a pursuit of the interests of this State will deeply wound those of the U. S., is inconsistent with the most sacred engagements to the Union, and will be inevitably productive of an example that must render all future administration of the federal finances impracticable, I shall hope and trust that the Executive will order the Tobacco in question to be delivered to the Continental L. Officer at its current price.

I have the honor to be, with Sentiments of the most entire Respect,

Y'r Excellency's most Obed't Serv't.

ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO GOV. RANDOLPH. January 29th

Sir:

Agreeably to your desire, I inclose a copy of the Resolutions of the General Assembly under which I was appointed, and by which you will be informed of the inducement that led to the same, but no general line of conduct marked out further than relates to the Public Officers. Being disappointed in attempts to get usefull information, and finding the subject of my duty very intricate and much perplexed, led to my first solicitations to the Executive as the ruling power under whose direction and influence I conceived myself placed, altho' the resolutions were silent on the subject untill a full statement of the account should be effected, the obstacles continuing induced a repetition on my part, and finding myself possessed of the greatest desire to do the utmost good, I felt the consequence of appeals to the Executive; but should the whole weight of the subject be Commissioner's office

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1788. put on my shoulders, I might solicite a general Line of Duty, pointing
January 29th out both my responsible actions and my powers, and how I am to obtain usefull information that is at a distance from me.

I have the Honor to be, with respect,
Your Excellency's most ob't.

January 30th — WM. ROSE, KEEPER OF THE PUBLIC JAIL,

Reminds the Governor that his contract for furnishing the Jail with provisions expired on the 25th ult., and wishes it to be renewed, &c. He begs a loan of £30, in order to purchase 3,500 weight of Pork, which he can procure immediately, as a large Drove of Hogs are killing within sixty yards of his House, &c.

January 31st — W. M. KING

Norfolk county — Certifies that Samuel Young had made oath before him, a Justice, &c., that the ship Count D'Artois, now lying in Elizabeth River, is the property of Robert Morris, Esquire, of Philadelphia, &c.

February 1st — J. PARKER TO GOV'R RANDOLPH.

Portsmouth — His late illness, added to the coldness of the weather, and the river being frozen so as to stop the communication by water, have prevented his waiting on his Excellency with his Returns, and on the Treasurer with the monies collected since the last quarter. As soon as the Ice is dissolved at Richmond he expects to make report in person.

February 4th — CORBIN BRAXTON,

Richmond, Virginia — Having resigned the Office of Searcher at West Point, Mr. John Spat. Moore is recommended as his successor.

February 4th — J. PENDLETON, AUDITOR, TO THE GOVERNOR,

Auditor's office — Requesting that a proper person be appointed to settle the accounts of John Revely, who had been manager of the Public Foundry at Westham, and is importunately anxious that this should be done, &c.

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L. WOOD, J'N'R, TO THE GOVERNOR, — 1788. February 4th Solicitor's office, Richmond

Requesting his Order upon the Auditor for a warrant for fifteen pounds to pay for Coal and other Office expenses.

HENRY LYNE APPLIES TO THE EXECUTIVE — February 5th

For a warrant for £216. 13. 4, being the wages of Colo. Joseph Martin as Indian Agent. Mr. P. Henry's memorandum enclosed shows that it had usually been paid out of the Contingent fund, &c.

GEO. HANDLEY — February 5th

Encloses *proceedings of the Convention held in that State for ratifying the Federal Constitution. — Georgia, Augusta

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(Copy)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION, — February 7th

Ratifying the Constitution of the United States, &c., signed by John Hancock, Pres't, and Wm. Cushing, Vice-Pres't. — Boston, Massachusetts

JOHN AVERY, J'N'R, Secretary.

J. PRESTON TO GOV. RANDOLPH, — February 9th

In regard to the movement of the Creek Indians against the people of Georgia, and the probable effect their success may have upon the Cherokees, whereby the frontier of Virginia will be greatly endangered. The inability of the inhabitants of Georgia to defend themselves, together with the apprehension that the Cherokees may be induced to join them, has raised an ardour becoming Virginians in the breast of several young Gentlemen in our Western Counties, and determined them to haste to the assistance of the Georgians with a complete Troop of Horse, which may speedily be raised as Volunteers of the flower of our Youth. The Governor of Georgia has been informed of the design, and nothing but the necessary arms and the approval of the plan by the Governor of Va. is wanted. He, therefore, begs for eighty Brace Horsemen's Pistols, eighty Cartridge Boxes, eighty horsemen's Swords, eighty Viliss's, two — Montgomery county, Smithfield

*Not found.

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1788. February 9th —— Horns, and two Trumpets, from the Public stores, without which the Design must prove abortive. His Excellency's desire always to encourage Patriotism, which with sorrow he perceives is decl'ing, is his excuse for thus giving him trouble. Pledges himself to give security that the articles shall be replaced or paid for, if lost, after the Expedition is over.

February 11th T. MERIWETHER'S MEMORANDA OF REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE MILITIA, &C.

Richmond Albemarle, Light Company not included, reports 1 Ensign, 3 Sergeants wanting. Co. Lieut. returns 51 muskets. Militia in one regiment only, including all, 1,042 men.

Amelia, Light Company not included, reports 123 muskets. Militia in two Regiments. Total, 886 men.

Amherst, several officers wanted. 148 muskets reported.

Buckingham, 165 muskets and 30 Bayonets reported.

Charles City, deficiency of officers, and only 39 muskets reported.

Chesterfield, Light Company not included, 131 muskets, &c.

Cumberland, 39 muskets reported.

Fluvanna, 18 muskets.

Fayette, deficient in many officers.

So with Goochland.

Greensville, only 132 muskets.

Hampshire, only 112 muskets.

Henrico, 1,198 men, rank and file, in one Regiment.

Hardy, deficient.

Hanover, ditto.

Isle of Wyght, 158 muskets, and the Co. Lieutenant refuses to serve.

King & Queen, no Sergeants.

Mercer, deficient.

Nansemond, 320 muskets and 25 bayonets.

Norfolk Borough, deficient in officers, 84 muskets and 54 bayonets.

Ohio, deficient.

Orange, deficient in Feild and other Officers.

Prince George, 196 muskets, &c.

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P. William, deficient in officers. Only 10 muskets reported. 1788.
Shenando, deficient. February 11th
Southampton, 131 muskets, &c.
Surry, deficient.
Washington, ditto.

J. DIXON, PUBLIC PRINTER — February 14th

Complains that too much of his salary had been paid to Aug. Davis and Thos. Nicolson, who had assisted him in printing the Laws of the last Session of the General Assembly, &c. — Richmond

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ANDREW ELLICOTT TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH, OF VIRGINIA, — February 15th

Requesting to be paid a balance due him for his services as one of the Commissioners in 1784, to determine the Astronomical Boundaries between that State and the State of Pennsylvania. — Baltimore

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CHAS. THOMSON TO GOV. RANDOLPH, — February 15th

Enclosing an Act, &c., for granting Sea Letters to American vessels bound on long and distant voyages, with request that it be published in the public papers, &c. — Office of Secretary of Congress

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CAPT. RICHARD TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR, — February 18th

Requesting authority to draw on Col. Parker for money necessary to buy provisions, as he has on hand only pork enough to last one month. Should he be permitted to buy a Whale-Boat, he proposes to keep Mr. Heath in her, to cruise up and down the Bay, into the different inlets, to detect smugglers. Mr. Heath's duties will be arduous, and he thinks his pay should be increased. Such a Boat can be purchased for $25. — Richmond

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ACCORDING TO ACCOUNTS MADE AGAINST THE STATE, — February 19th

It appears that four shillings pr. day was paid for negroes hired. Sawyers and artificers were allowed only two shillings pr. day. — Auditor's office

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1788. February 20th Randolph county

Wm. Blair a Soldier

Wounded under Colo. Chas. Lewis, when he was killed, applies for his pension, &c.

February 20th

David Henley's Account

For services rendered in settling the Illinois' Account.

February 21st

Mr. Carter Braxton

Richmond

Having been authorized to sell the Public Tobacco to John Hopkins, Esq., Com. of Loans on the part of the United States, he informs Mr. Ambler, the Treasurer, of the terms on which he and Mr. Hopkins have agreed, viz: For the Tobacco rated at 28s., of which there is about 77 H'ds, he is to give twenty-five shillings pr. Hundred. For all the rest of the Crop Tobacco, he is to give Twenty-three shillings and nine pence pr. Hundred, of which we estimate about six hundred and sixty-six H'h'ds. The Transfer tobacco he is to take at the rate the Inspectors sold it at, all trouble and expence in collecting the money, to be paid by Mr. Hopkins on Continental Account, taking his receipt for the Amount in specie.

February 21st

Francis Corbin to Governor Randolph.

Middlesex Buckingham Lodge

Dear Sir:

By the great good policy of the grave and wise Senate, Urbanna was made a Port of Delivery at the last Sessions of Assembly. It follows then, that the office of Searcher must be re-established. You will do me a Kindness by appointing Mr. George Davies to it, a young man of this County, who has lived for some years in Mr. Cosby's Store, and whose character is unexceptionable in every point. So unexceptionable, I should rather say so praiseworthy, that Cosby writes me word he will himself (if necessary,) become responsible for his Conduct. I hope my application is early enough.

The Constitution thrives—it has been extremely sick of prejudice and misrepresentation, but it is daily growing better and better. I administer a few Pills now and then—gentle but purgative.

My Aff't Compliments to Mrs. Randolph,
and I am, Dr. Sir, Mo. Sincerely yours.

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P. MUHLENBERG TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA, 1788.

In regard to the case of a negro Slave, said to be the property of a citizen of St. Croix, but who is claimed by a citizen of Virginia. This negro claimed to be a citizen of the United States, and had been convicted of a crime. Should it appear that he is the property of a citizen of Virginia, on information given by the Executive of Virginia, he will be restored to his owner. February 23d Philadelphia In Council

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RICH'D PARKER TO GOV. RANDOLPH. February 25th

Sir:

I received your favor of the 21st of this Instant, enclosing my Commission of Judge of the General Court. As the General Assembly have done me the honor of appointing me to that office (as a Republican) I do not think myself at Liberty to refuse it, however contrary to my Interest the acceptance of it may be. I have the honor to be with the truest regard, Fredericksburg

Your Excellency's
most obedient Servant.

IT HAVING BEEN PROVEN

That John Gipson, a Justice of the Peace for said County, who had removed therefrom, but in passing and re-passing through the same, continueth to act as such, the Court on this account, and from the many Illegal practices of the said Gipson, expelled him from office, and order the Clerk to certify the same to the Executive. Franklin C Court

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JOSEPH MEREDITH TO GOV. RANDOLPH, March 2d

Declining to accept the office of searcher for that Port, for the reason that the salary is inadequate to the duties required. The extent of this port, being a circumference of at least ten miles, would necessitate his being constantly engaged in this business only. He should be compelled to hire or keep a sail-boat to visit the shipping which lay in the Roads, and stage hire to Richmond four times a year, to make his quarterly reports, would add Twelve pounds to his other expences, &c. Hampton

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1788. WILL. HETH TO GOV'R RANDOLPH.

March 9th
New York

Sir:

Mr. Maddison introduced to Congress last Monday the report of the Assembly of Virginia respecting her demand for the nor. western territory, when it was referred to a Committee of Five, viz: Colo. Wadsworth, Connecticut; Mr. Dane, Massachusetts; Mr. Clarke, Jersey; Gen'l Irvine, Penn'a; and Mr. Kerney, of Delaware, who have, as yet, being engaged on other business, done nothing therein. Colo. Wadsworth, the chairman, a man of Judgment and liberality, and anxious for a cordial preservation of the Union, is desirous, as I am informed by the President, that the affair should be compromised, if possible, by Mr. Pierce and self without any report being made by the Committee to Congress. He wished, in an accidental meeting, that the Assembly of Virginia, or the Governor, had vested me with powers to enter on the business; for it would be a damn'd disagreeable piece of work to bring before Congress. General Irvine, with whom I have had free conversation, professes the same sentiments. I have so fully impressed him with the nature and equity of the claims of Virginia, that he not only acknowledged his disappointment respecting the amount of her whole demand, but reprobated the principles which Mr. Pierce maintained in the first questions.

As yet I have not had an opportunity of conversing with Colo. Hamilton on this Subject, without showing more the zeal and officiousness of an agent than impartial arbitrator, a line of conduct which I mean invariably to pursue. Should the Committee make a report to Congress, I shall despair of success. For, besides those who may, like Mr. Pierce, from constitution, or habit, be accustomed to measure things by a very confined and narrow scale, their may be others who, wishing to renounce the proposed federal system of government, or to see a separation of the States take place, will secretly rejoice at such an opportunity of exciting the resentment and increasing the Jealousy of Virginia as well as other Southern States, on the Score of *Eastern influence, chicanery, and illiberality*. I am, therefore, inclined to think that an amicable adjustment of this business depends, in a very great measure, upon address and negociation in its present stage. If the Committee should be influenced by the same temper of mind which governs Wadsworth and Irvine, Mr. Pierce will, very probably, either be induced by *their* private recommendation to rescind his former opinions so far as to meet me on such terms as I should think myself Justifiable in closing with, or will resign his appointment, and which I have some reason to believe would be immediately filled by some gentleman disposed to make short and liberal work of it. And, in either case, the Claim of Virginia would more than probably be closed without again resorting to the papers in Richmond. If the Delegation should view the business in the same light, they will, no doubt, make such report to your Excellency in Council as will Justify the board in authorizing me to enter again thereon. A few days more will enable them to form a better Judgment.

I have the honor to be your
Excellency's most obedient Servant.

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JOSEPH MARTAIN TO GOV'R RANDOLPH. 1788.

Sir:

I wrote your Excellency from Toogaloe, in Georgia, the 3d Instant, the particular situation of that Country respecting the Indians, which I expect will come to hand before this. On my way here I touched on several outskirts of the Cherokee Indians, who all seem'd very friendly, tho' seem'd to be surpris'd I did not goe through their principal Towns and hold talks with them. My Excuse was, that the white people on Holsten was in great confution, and that I was in great hast. hoping to reconcile matters. As soon as that was done, would return and inform them, agreeable to my promise, what the Legislatures of Virginia and North Carolina had done for them. In which time I hope Congress will appoint some person to speak Officially to them. March 13th Washington county

A few days past a party of Indians came into Holsten and wounded one man, and took off about one Hundred Horses. At my arrival in Sullivan, which was last evening, found Orders was given by the Colo. of Hawkins' County to Imbody the Militia Immediately, and carry on an Expedition against the Cherokees, while Washington and Sullivan Counties ware preparing to march against Mr. Sivier, who they Defeated about ten days agoe. I sent express to stop the Hawkins troops until further orders, and am now doing every thing in my power to prevent any further Disputes between the old and new state, which I hope to affect, as little mischeif is yet done, only two men kill'd and six wounded.

The Cherokees, notwithstanding the many Insults given them, have, as yet, paid the greatest respect to the Citizens of Virginia, and say that the medals sent them from the State are yet round their necks, and is Bright; that they also remember the presents sent them. So great has their attachment been, that notwithstanding the Defenceless situation of Russell County, am led to beleive that there never has been any mischeif done by consent of that nation since 1782, tho' I fear if nothing is done shortly that they may be prevailed on by the Creeks.

I mentioned in my letter from Henry, that I expected to be in the nation in the course of the winter, but on reflection thought it was best to refer it until some accounts from Congress, as they would press me to tell them whether anything was done for them or not.

South Carolina and Georgia has appointed Commissioners to treat with the Indians, which Treaty, I am told, will commence in may next; but no Virginian has anything to say in the Treaty. I cannot think the Cheif of the Cherokees will attend unless your Excellency would write to them. I expect to attend the Treaty, as I am told it is to be held on Toogaloe, near one of my plantations. If your Excellency will Honour me with any Letters or Talks, they shall be Deliver'd Safe. It might answer a very good purpose if Congress would appoint a Superintendent by that time, as the Commissioners might Introduce him to the Indians, &c.

I have the Honour to be, with very great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient Servant.

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1788. COLO. WALTER CROCKETT TO GOV'R RANDOLPH.

Sir:

March 15th Montgomery county

The inclosed transcript contains the proceedings that hath been had in pursuance of your favour, and the orders of Council of the 5th of January, with which it was accompanied. Why the scouts were appointed without the approbation of a majority of the Captaines I hope will be solved to your satisfaction when you are informed that the papers did not arrive until the 4th Instant—a season that hath almost yearly produced some sad example of Savage cruelty upon our Frontier; and that to have awaited the desirable and salutary counsels of a general Convention of officers would have subjected the business (from the extensive outlines of the country) to an order of time, which delay might have been attended with fatal consequences to those in danger.

The number of militia destined as a company of Rangers for the Protection of the Frontiers of this County, I have ordered to be held in readiness, but am truly affraid it will prove unproductive and Falacious; two causes conspiring to this evil consequence, namely: the difficulty of procuring successive detachments and the low price offered for provisions.

The first of these, experience hath evinced, is not to be effected but by coercion, for it is not presumable that men busyed in the concerns of domestic happiness, and at a season, too, when the earth is just beginning to teem with a gratefull recompense for their unwearied toil, or, perhaps, their fields to wave with a ripening Harvest, that they will muster themselves with that alacrity and cheerfulness that the exigency of such invaders require, and leave their crops to languish in their absence for the want of agriculture. But suppose this obstacle could be surmounted, yet, sir, the second being universally rejected, is attended with more heinous consequences; for, without provisions, nothing can be done which ought to be performed, and Bacon is selling at 7½d. and 8d. p'r Lb.; Corn at 3s. p. Bushell, and Flour at 15s. p'r Hundred.

Having premised thus much, you may easily collect that the posture of these affairs requires your immediate application. And give me leave, sir, with a truly unaffected zeal, to intreat you to finish the salutary work which you have begun, and hope I shall not be thought an intruder, when I say the measures you are to pursue are, in my opinion, two: first, to permit the company of Rangers to be enlisted by voluntary enlistments, and, secondly, to increase the stipend for a Ration to nine pence. If this meets with your concurrence, I hope everything that the greatest zealot could wish. Some doubts have arisen with respect to the third cornet. Whether his corpse (corps) is to act separate from, or be incorporated with one of the Regimental company's of cavalry; therefore thought it necessary to mention it to you for an explanation.

I am, sir, with great respect,

your most ob't, Humble Serv't.

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T. MERIWETHER'S NOTES ON MILITIA RETURNS, &C. 1788.

Botetourt, upwards of 1,100, Rank and file, in one Regiment. March 15th

Dinwiddie, return deficient in form; militia; 1,644 privates.

Middlesex, return not agreeable to form. The Co. Lieutenant writes that he has not a shilling of money arising from fines in his hands. The Law directs the commanding officer to render to the Executive an Acc't upon oath, on or before the 31st of December annually.

New Kent, return not in form; officers deficient; 24 muskets and 1 bayonet.

Spotsylvania, return not in form; many officers wanted; 102 muskets and 1 bayonet.

Williamsburg, Officers for one company wanted; 4 muskets and 1 bayonet.

Tho' the Commanding Officers of Dinwiddie and Williamsburg have made Returns, I have reason to beleive they had not General Musters. Are they to be excused?

J. PRESTON TO GOV'R RANDOLPH. March 17th

Sir:

Perhaps when you view the subject of my letter, the inference will be that I am impertinent, and trouble you with a tedious discourse when there appears no necessity for it; but, Sir, let this one reason alone excuse me with your Excellency for this intention; namely, that the Command of the Rangers for this County will devolve on me, and being thus interested, am compelled to mention some things to you which are of moment towards putting this business into execution. Montgomery county, Smithfield

I think Colo. Crockett's apprehensions are but too well grounded, when he fears that the number of men, by him ordered as Rangers, will not answer the desired purpose. Besides the reasons he has already given, others might be urged; but it shall suffice me only to say that those men thus ordered having but a dull prospect of being well supplied with provision, and as we are to be obliged to undergo numberless fatigues, are quite backward to enter upon this business. Your Excellency alone can easily divise means for redressing the evil complained of first, and this will make the second more supportable.

When Colo. Crockett has given you the prices of Bacon, Corn and flour, and adds that nine pence p'r ration ought to be allowed, I conceive he means that a ration could be procured at that price in or near the centre of the County. But, pray, Sir, how are those provisions to be got to the place which may be fix'd on for a Station? Ah! how, Sir, are those rations to be distributed to these men when it may be thought necessary to send them on scouting parties, perhaps as far as the banks of the Ohio?

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1788. March 17th

From the unfavourable season farmers had last year, crops are scanty, and provisions can only be procured near the middle line of the County running westward; and this lies generally from forty to sixty miles from the nearest place the men can be fix'd at, so as to be of any service to the frontiers, and two or three stupendous mountains to cross before you can arrive at it. This, Sir, renders the transportation of provisions very difficult and expensive, being obliged to be packed on horses. And then to furnish ranging parties with rations, which will oblige them to follow the men, and supply them as it may be wanted, will be a jobb of the greatest fatigue, in which few, or perhaps none, would willingly engage for the price proposed. There will be also wanting Camp Kittles or Potts, and some axes, and no method is provided (except impressment) for the procuring these articles; also, powder and flints, and for the rest the men themselves may furnish. There were some doubts whether the officers for the Ranging company were to be chosen from among the Militia Officers of this County, or otherwise appointed for this particular occasion. I hope your Excellency will be kind enough to remove these doubts by an explanation.

The Bearer of Colo. Crockett's letter and this, is sent by express, at the particular request of the Colonel. He will, therefore, expect a compensation for his services.

I am, Sir, with just esteem,

Your Excellency's most ob't and very H'ble Servant.

March 18th

GABRIEL JONES TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Staunton

This day I had the honor of receiving your Excellency's letter of the 21st ult., inclosing your Commission as a Judge of the General Court, with a request that I would, as soon as convenient, notify to you whether the appointment was acceptable. Altho' I do and ever shall feel the strongest obligations to my country for the Honor she has confered upon me, a consciousness of my inabilities, both of Body and mind, induces me to decline the acceptance of an appointment, the duties of which I am by no means equal to.

I have the Honor to be, sir,

Your Excellency'y most ob't, h'ble Serv't.

March 18th

JOHN P. DUVALL, CO. LIEUT., TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Harrison county

At my return from the assembly, I found the Inhabitants on the frontier of this County much confused respecting the murder which was committed last fall, and some was Determined to leave the Country, and them who had fortitude enough to Stand was also Determined to foot. But, at the same time, having some hopes of something being done By Govern-

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ment for their Relief, waited my Return, who, with much difficulty, had prevailed on them to stand their Ground, and Engaged to defend them as much as was in my power, which Ingagement has induced me to order out the thirty Rangers, as I fully Expect a Visit from the Savages Early this Spring, and the Extensiveness of the County is such that the whole of them is not sufficient, as we have to cover a part of Randolph county. 1788. March 18th

I have, agreeable to your Excellency's Directions, called a council of the militia officers of this county, in order to make a choice of Scouts, but they have construed the meaning of this order of the Executive in a Different point of View to what I do myself. The Council of officers have supposed the Intention and meaning of the Executive was that four Scouts consisted of Eight men, as two men generally go together on a scout. I should be glad to find myself in the mistake, as I well know the necessity of having the eight, and hopes they may be augmented to that number in case my ideas should be right. I have appointed a Captain to command the thirty men, and waits your Instructions for the appointment of a Lieut. or Insign.

Sir, I subscribe myself your most Humble Servant.

ANDREW WODROW TO THE GOVERNOR, March 18th

In regard to the recommendations made for Justices of the Peace in that County. Contrary to custom these have been made at the Quarterly term, instead of as usually done at the meeting of the monthly court. On these latter occasions so few magistrates generally attend that little business is done, and on this account also nominations should not be made. The urgent necessity for having all the public offices filled is their excuse for thus departing from the rule commonly used in recommending candidates for Justices, &c. Hampshire county

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L. WOOD, J'N'R, TO THE GOVERNOR. March 19th

Requests an order on the Auditor for a warrant on the Treasury for thirty Pounds, to defray Expences of Riders with notices to sundry delinquent Debtors, in anticipation of the meeting of the General Court. Finding a large number of Bonds due on account of Duties, yet remaining in his office, and which, from the late changes in the Judiciary, may in future, be difficult of collection. He desires to get Judgment upon as many of them as possible at the June General Court. In view of his multiplicity of business he, on this account, desires permission to employ for a month or more an extra clerk, &c, Solicitor's office

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1788. ARTHUR CAMPELL TO JAMES MCGAVOCK,

March 19th In regard to an order for an amount of lead promised by the Executive, &c. Incloses a *copy of a printed paper sent to him for distribution among the people. Adds: "It is said to be revised by the celebrated Dr. Ewing. I do myself the pleasure of forwarding one for you and another for my friend, Mr. John Montgomery. It is the best thing I have seen wrote against the Constitution. And a piece signed 'Publius' is the best in favour of it."

March 19th HENRY BANKS TO THE GOVERNOR,

Warm Springs Recommending the appointment of Capt. John Oliver as Searcher, who lives at that place. This rendered necessary by reason of the many waggons which pass by this place with goods from the northern States, of which he has reason to beleive no entry is made. It is the most northern pass in the State except Fort Cumberland.

March 19th JAMES INNES, ATTORNEY-GEN'L, GIVES HIS OPINION

Richmond That under the act *to amend the laws of Revenue*, to provide for the support of civil Government and the gradual Redemption of all the debts due by the *Commonwealth*, all warrants which have issued, or may be issued, to foreign creditors, whose demands have been heretofore liquidated and directed to be paid by some Resolution or Act of Assembly, after the payment of the eighty thousand pounds in the said act mentioned, are receivable in discharge of additional duties and Imposts laid by the above-recited laws on all goods and merchandizes which shall be brought into this Commonwealth, by land or water, for the purpose of making an adequate provision for the Redemption of the public securities and for aiding the sinking Fund.

March 20th NUMEROUS AFFIDAVITS TAKEN IN HANOVER CO.,

Richmond To show that Capt. Wm. Russell, of that County, should not have been fined for non-attendance upon a Court Martial, he having been unavoidably detained therefrom by sickness, &c.

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ALEXANDER BARNETT TO GOV'R RANDOLPH. 1788.

Sir:

I had the Honour to Receive your Instructions, dated January 8th, on Monday last, being the 17th inst., and the day before the Election for the Convention in june at Ritchmond, at which Time the field officers all attended and imediately Proceeded to Consider the Particulars mention'd. March 22d Russell county

It was Thought advisable to order out Three pare of Scouts and no Rangers, as it might tend to secure the fronteer from danger and lessen the Expence to the State. The scouts will provid. their own provitions at the stated price.

It was also thought Advisable to order one Devition and one half Devition in Each Company to Git in, And Continue in, rediness to march on the Shortest notice (shou'd the Scouts at their Return make Report of Indians or Sine of them makeing in to the Inhabitants) to meet them. It was Considered that Rangers could not carry more than five or Six Days' provitions on their backs, and to fall to Killing in the woods might onely caution the Enemy to be Carefull not to be Discóvered, and to Take pack Horses with provitions might create Unnecessary Expence, and the mountains high and Steep, so that men in many places cou'd hardly Climb Up to the top.

The Excessive length from Montgomery line to Cumberland Gap Can't be less than One Hundred and Eighty miles, all of it on One side exposed to the Indians. It is Thought by the present Consultation of Officers that it may lessen the Expence of the State that the Draughts, When Call'd for, take Provitions with them from home, and make a public charge according to the number of Days on duty. It will foward them to the place of Rendezvous, and we know not whare that may be. I can assart with Great propriaty that the whole consultation Extended for the Safety of our County and to create as little Expence to the State as possible.

The Recomendation of the Cornet Commandant we postpon'd Untill Our next meeting, which will be shortly, in Order to find a person Suteable for that purpose.

I Have Honnour to be, with great Rispect,

Your Excelancie's Obedient and Verry Humble Servant.

JOHN DUNLAP TO THE EXECUTIVE OF VIRGINIA, March 23d

Urging the payment of his claim on the State for the cost of certain Printing Presses and their Apparatus, which he purchased in the year 1780 at the request of the Delegates in Congress from Virginia, and shipped to Virginia, but which were captured by the Enemy at Hampton on the way to Richmond. The House of Delegates had long since passed Resolu- Philadelphia

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1788. March 23d tions in favour of his claim, and he now sends Mr. James Dunlap with power of attorney to receive the amount due him. In as much as he has been required to pay full interest upon the obligations entered into with others on this account, he trusts the Executive of Va. will allow him the same in remuneration, &c.

March 23d CYRUS GRIFFIN AND J. BROWN, DELEGATES, TO GOV'R RANDOLPH, ENCLOSING ONE FROM COL. WILL. HETH, &C.

Sir:

New York The claim of Virginia arising from the N. Western Territory is still before a Committee of Congress.

Colo. Heath is right in opinion that more advantageous terms may be obtained by negotiation than after a well digested Report. At present, we think it a reasonable expectation that if the Commissioner on the part of Virginia was authorized to enter again upon the Business it might be adjusted fully as much to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth as the nature, circumstances and situation of things will warrant.

We have the honor to be, with profound respect and esteem,

Sir, Your Excellency's

most obedient, H'ble Servants, &c.

N. YORK, March 21st, 1788.

Sir:

The Delegation having fully concurred with me in the opinion which I gave in my letter of the 9th Inst. on the situation of my business hither, I now beg leave to give your Excellency my Sentiments freely on this subject, that the Executive may be the better able to judge of the propriety of investing me with powers to enter again thereon, and to show that I wish not to sheild myself from popular censure, if fools or Sychophants should hereafter be busy, under any advice or opinions which the Executive may think proper to give.

In August last I had some hopes that about £180,000 would have been admitted. But this opinion was formed *more* upon Colo. Henley's conceiving that £150,000 would be the sum, and Mr. Pierce's making an estimate himself of nearly the same amount, than from the clearness or validity of the vouchers with which I was possessed to support the Charges. After Mr. Pierce objected to the expences of maintaining Forts Jefferson and Nelson, as well as the two Shawanese Expeditions carry'd on by General Clark with the militia of Kentuckey (say £10,000), and my obtaining Colo. Henley's opinion in private on the first, I found that £50,000 would have been the utmost that could have been established. As Mr. Pierce had then left us for this place, to return about the middle of September, I proposed to Colo. Henly to reserve his opinions on such important questions 'til some gentlemen of reputa-

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tion expected from Kentuckey and acquainted with the nature and circumstances of our dispute should arrive, instead of giving in his written opinion then; to which he readily acquiesced, and we wrote to Mr. Pierce not to return 'til the middle of October. 1788. March 23d

In proposing this delay I had two objects in view: First, I hoped by argument and the testimony of the gentlemen expected from Kentuckey, to convince Colo. Henley, at least, whom I have always viewed as a real honest man, that he had adopted a most erroneous opinion; and, 2ndly, That if I should be altogether disappointed therein, and consequently unable to establish such a sum as Virginia ought, in my Judgement, to accept, rather than involve herself in a dispute with Congress on such a complicated piece of business, and the Legislature might have an opportunity of determining thereon, and useing their interference while the business was still afloat. The event proved that I had at least acted judiciously. For tho' Colo. Henley receded so far from his former opinions that he would have gone with me in establishing £120,000 perhaps, while the principles rigidly maintained by Mr. Pierce would have reduced it to £50,000, yet as Mr. Henley's opinions were founded on such inconsistency as precluded every possibility of calculating with any degree of certainty upon them, I thought it my indispensible duty to make some of the principal members of our Assembly acquainted with the whole proceedings of the Commissioners. The issue I need not recite.

If I could have got any sum above £150,000 acknowledged, I would have permitted the account to have been quietly closed. And this I mentioned in confidence to the Lieut.-Governor, Gen'l Wood, and Capt. Marshall, in August, and to the Committee in December last. For tho' I feel the fullest conviction in my own mind that Virginia ought, in equity and good faith, to be reimbursed about £200,000, including the Shawanese expeditions, for the territory in question, yet such is the complexion of the Vouchers throughout the whole accounts; such is their ambiguity; such has been the neglect of the State in suffering many of her Officers, who had the disbursement of large sums of money, to remain unccounted with; and such has been the loss of papers, even out of some of the public offices, and very recently, that I do not think it probable *any* set of Commissioners would ever make the account more than £160 or £170,000.

I have been thus particular in giving a detail of this business, together with my undisguised sentiments, that your Excellency in Council may discover *what sums* I should now think myself warrantable in negotiating (*a*) and compromising (*b*) for. And I feel extremely happy in reflecting that in going over a private examination of the papers long before a Commission from Congress arrived in Richmond, I took private notes of many, many thousand pounds wanting *proof* and *explanation* (as by my letter to the Governor at the time will more fully appear), which would now be covered by the principles to which I mean to adhere

(*a*) £180,000.
(*b*) £150,000.

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1788. March 23d

in making a compromise (and which I can discover will be admitted), and that I had given the same opinions some months ago. Because it will prevent the most suspicious, ill-natured or malevolent mind from suggesting that I have been influenced by any political considerations whatever, or ensnared by the wiles of intrigue, if any such had been laid before me. And if I should have the satisfaction of closing this business agreeable to my expectations, it will not be forgot, I hope, that whatever sum above £50,000 I should get establish'd ought to be considered, if not so much *clear gain*, as so much *absolutely saved*, by preventing the business going on its regular progress in August last.

I hope your Excellency will pardon me for begging an answer as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's
most obedient and very Humble Servant.

WILL HETH.

March 26th

ROBERT TAYLOR TO ANDREW RONALD, RICHMOND,

Norfolk county

Informing him that Mr. John Boush had without his knowledge gone to Richmond with the recommendation of the County for him as High Sheriff. His intention had been to have gone to Richmond himself in order to represent to his Excellency, the Governor, why he could not accept that position. As so many others have declined the appointment, it may appear strange that he should do so also after having been recommended without his knowledge. But in as much as he proposes soon to leave the Country, and as in the present state of the County, the office would ruin any one who may undertake its duties, and as it would be impossible for him to give the proper security, he hopes he may not be compelled to accept a position that would inevitably entail ruin upon him. This, too, when generally the office is given as a reward for long services as a Justice, &c.

March 27th

JOHN SEVIER TO BRIG.-GEN'L JOSEPH MARTIN.

Sir:

Yours of the 21st Instant is now before me. I consider myself under obligations to any Friend for their interposition in time of Distress, but in the meantime beg leave to assure you that, in my opinion, I have acted no part in behalf Franklin but what I have been justly authorized so to do from the laws of No. Carolina, which State is the author of all these disturbances.

I have served No. Carolina in a public character many years. In the

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height of her calamities I was faithfull, and you are well acquainted that I made every Exertion where few others dared to mention the name of Independence. Yourself are a witness that I was Draged into the franklin measures by a large number of the people of this Country. I have been faithfull, and my own breast acquits myself that I have acted no part but what have been Consistent with honor and justice, tempered with Clemency and mercy. How far our pretended patriots have supported me as their pretended cheife magistrate, I leave the world at large to Judge. 1788. March 27th

I never meaned to spill blood on the occasion to the latest period of my time in office, Tho', unfortunately for some, it has been the case, But contrary to my orders, and their fate I do sincerely lament. I am now a private citizen some time since. I have supported the authority of Franklin during my continuance in office, and if the People have not spirit enough to support it farther, I shall not concern myself more then to secure my person and friends from the hands of Ruffins and assassinators. It is my wish that Peace and good order may take place in this country.

If it is your wish that hostilities cease, you must request your officers to act accordingly, otherwise, should armed men Range through the Country, it will Exasperate the People, and I know not what may be the Consequence. If myself and friends can be protected and unmolested until your No. Carolina next Assembly, we shall, let all matters lye, and the people at large may Act as they think fit. What I mean by my Friends, is those that have been active in Behalf of Franklin, and I am determined to share fate equally with those that have stood by me, and live or die together.

If you think proper, I will meet at you at any time. Colonel Hardin will inform you where we can have an interview, and you may rest assured that you will suffer no insults whatever. And I shall be glad how soon you can make it convenient to attend, in order to compromise the irksome Dispute.

I am, sir, with regard,

your mo. Obed't and Humb. Serv't.

NEWMAN BROCKENBROUGH, WM. LATANE, JOHN BROCKENBROUGH, JOHN BEALE, HENRY GARNETT, WM. WARING AND ROB'T L. WARING, JUSTICES, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. March 27th

Sir:

Having seen a letter to your Excellency from Spencer Roane, esq'r, respecting a nomination of Magistrates from this Court in August last, and as we conceive that letter contains illiberal insinuations, and in some instances erroneous reflections on the Court and some of its members, Essex county

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1788. March 27th

hope that we shall not intrude on your patience by informing your Excellency and the Hon'ble Council why such a recommendation was put in execution. For three years past little business has been done in this County, and there has been a general complaint of tardiness in business in Essex Court in comparison with the adjacent Counties. A new nomination was thought necessary, and proper notice given to all the magistrates in commission to attend for that purpose on the 3d day of August term. Seven magistrates did attend (four of whom were of the Quorum), which was as full a Court as had been for two years past, and among others Mr. Smith and Mr. Beverly were proposed to be reinstated, as some of the Court supposed that these Gentlemen were illegally left out of commission in the year 1777. And the Court knowing them to be men of Abilities, well informed and being long acquainted with the rules of Courts, it was thought they would add dignity and respectability to the bench, and that the business of the Court would be better conducted than heretofore. The present *Judge is a very worthy citizen, whose long and faithful services as a magistrate deserve great praise, but he is now far advanced in years and cannot attend so regularly as formerly. The next in commission is Mr. James Edmonston, who seldom appears on the bench. The other Quorum magistrates live at a distance and cannot conveniently attend.

These, may it please your Excellency, were the true and only motives by which the Court were actuated in their recommendation, and we feel ourselves much hurt that your Excellency and the Hon'ble Council should reject the solemn and unanimous recommendation of six Magistrates in the *ipse dixit* of a single person, whose representation, in several instances, are *nul* facts. Mr. Edmonston, himself, did not object to Mr. Beverley's being in the majistracy, but objected to being rode, as he termed it, and we should not have placed them in that order but for the reasons assigned, that they were unjustly left out of the Commission, and (in the absence of the present Judge) as senior magistrates would keep more Order and decorum in Court. It is a matter of no personal consequence to us whether Mr. Beverly is in the majistracy or not, nor shall we attempt to refute the extraordinary charges of your informer; but we beg leave to observe that it is a fundamental principle in our Constitution that no person or persons should be found guilty without being confronted with their accusers, and in case of vacancies, or increasing the number of magistrates hereafter, such appointments to be made by the recommendation of the respective County Courts. We wish not to call in question your discretionary powers, but we think ourselves competent to this Business, and being conscious of rectitude, very sensibly feel the indignity offer'd the Court in rejecting their recommendation; and it is with real concern we inform your Excellency and the H'ble Council that this is not the first time that our solemn recommendation hath been re-

*John Upshur.

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jected by the Executive from misrepresentation. Therefore we, who have been the acting majistrates for some years past, humbly beg that your Excellency and the Hon'ble Council will reconsider the matter and return the Commission agreeable to the recommendation, that the peace, order, and regular administration of Justice may again be restored to the County, because we consider ourselves friends to our country and to the present Government, and while we act as magistrates, do not choose to be dictated to, or to have our characters traduced by an Individual. 1788. March 27th

We are, with the most perfect respect,

Your Excellencie's most obe't Servants.

LEVI TODD AND JAMES GARRARD TO GOV. RANDOLPH OF VA. March 29th

May it Please Your Excellency:

By Capt. Rogers, who will forward this, We inform the Executive that the Indians, for some time past, have discovered a disposition to prosecute a War against us with uncommon Ardor and usual Barbarity. They have, since the commencement of the present year, at different times taken, we think, not less than Eighty Horses from the Counties of Fayette and Bourbon. They have repeatedly fired upon the Inhabitants of these Counties, and several have been killed. Last week they made an attack on a House in the frontier of Bourbon, adjoining Fayette, in the night. They killed five of the Family, destroyed the Property, and burnt the House. It is but too common they escape without adequate punishment. In the last attack and pursuit two of the Enemy were killed and one wounded. The Inhabitants on the frontiers of each of these Counties are alarmed and moving, and when this once begins, 'tis Hard to say where the evil will terminate, or what part may be a Frontier. A doubt exists whether pursuant to Instructions from the Executive, dated the 5th of June, 1787, we are authorized to procure supplies for the Men necessary to be Ordered into Service at this Time—whether the Act of Congress enclosed in Instructions, dated the 14th of August, was intended to divest the County Lieutenants of Kentucky of the Power given them by the Resolve of Council of the 5th of June. We find ourselves the Commanding Officers of a respectable body of men, capable of carrying destruction through the whole of the extensive Country this side of the Lakes, the Country well stored with Provisions of every kind, and for want of the means of procuring supplies, necessary for military operations, have it not in our power to annoy a party of ten, or Guard a single spot, and at the same time the united voice of the Oppressed and timorous cries to us for that releif which they, as citizens, are entitled to. We would observe that the other Counties in this district are almost equally subject to Incursions of Savages. The frontier of Mercer is about 30 miles interior from where it was one year ago, which has given an un- Fayette county, Kentucky

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1788. March 29th expected frontier to Fayette. From a Consideration of these Circumstances, we doubt not but the Executive will exert every power given them by the Legislature that will tend to the defence of this District or the annoyance of our Common Enemies, and that every doubt with regard to the authority we possess, in consequence of any order of Council, may be removed by pointed, positive Instructions.

We have the Honor to be,
With the greatest respect and esteem,
Your Excellencie's most obedient
and very humble Servants.

P. S.—Custom and our extreme distance from the Executive induces me frequently to request the Gentlemen recommended to military offices to act in Expectation Commissions will Issue. The Recommendations I transmit to the Executive; and at this time at least forty acting Officers in Fayette are without Commissions.

LEVI TODD.

March 31st

ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO THE GOVERNOR,

Richmond, Virginia Urging the payment of his salary. He hopes the assiduous attention and labour that his official duties have imposed upon him will plead in favor of his desire. With due deference, he adds, that if ever a Salary was merited, I have laboured to make the claim mine.

PRINTED STATEMENT OF THE STATES REPRESENTED IN CONGRESS,

With the average number of delegates who attended each day of session during the month of March, 1788, pursuant to the Act of 17th August, 1785.

SUNDRY CERTIFICATES

Registring vessels built in Virginia—sloops, schooners, brigs and ships, from twenty to one hundred and ninety-five tons burthen, &c.

April 1st

THOMAS MERIWETHER REPORTS TO THE EXECUTIVE

Richmond That the militia delinquencies remain as last Reported. The County Lieutenants of Amherst, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Frederick, Goochland, Henrico, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Powhatan, Prince William and Spotsylvania have recommended Cavalry Officers, and Commissions have issued accordingly.

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CYRUS GRIFFIN AND J. BROWN, DELEGATES, TO GOV. RANDOLPH. 1788.

Sir: April 3d

* * * * * * * New York

No application from any of the other States to prolong the Period within which they are to adjust their claims against the United States has as yet been made by Congress; but still we trust that the application on behalf of Virginia for that purpose will not be rejected.

With great respect

Your Excellency's

most H'ble Servants.

JOHN SEVIER TO BRIG.-GEN'L JOSEPH MARTIN. April 3d

Sir:

I have just now been Hon'd with your letter with respect to an accommodation of our unhappy disturbances. I am ready to suspend all kind of hostilities and Prosecutions on our part, and bury into total Oblivion all past Conduct. If you and the officers under your command will accede to the like measures Until the Riseing of the next North Carolina Assembly, and be guided by the deliberations of that body, peace and Order may immediately take place.

I have the Honor to be, Sir,

Your mo. obed't and H'ble Serv't.

THOS. MERIWETHER TO THE EXECUTIVE, April 3d

Enclosing the Quarterly Return of the Superintendent at the Point of Fork, &c.: Richmond

A Ballance of £127. 3. 11¼. due to the Superintendant and Artificers, and £72. 12. 0. due to the Guard.

Papers submitted to the consideration of the Executive:

1. Contract for the erection of the magazine.

2. An estimate of materials for the magazine.

3. An estimate of Cloath'g necessary for the Guard and public negroes the ensuing year.

The Superintendent has sold so much of the old and unsound Powder as has produced the sum of £29. 8. 9. The sum of £16. 4. 11. remains in Mr. Langham's hands, produced by the sale of cloath'g and other articles, and to be applied to the payment of contingent demands. The two negroes that absconded in December last are not yet recover'd.

1. On the 14th March, 1788, a contract was entered into with Daniel Morrin, of Fluvanna Co., to build a Magazine of Stone at the Point of Fork. It was to be twenty-four feet square in the clear, with walls suffi-

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1788. April 3d

ciently thick to bear being arched over with stone, &c., and to be plaistered within. The work to begin by the 15th June, 1788, and the building to be finished by the 15th of October following. Messrs. Langham and Meriwether agree to have all the materials brought in place and to furnish a sufficient number of attenders to carry on the work expeditiously. They are to find the masons good, wholesome provisions and lodging, and to pay to said Morrin two shillings specie a perch for the Stone-work and four pence p'r square yard for plaistering the house inside, &c. This agreement, signed by Elias Langham and Thomas Meriwether on the part of the State, and by Daniel Morin for himself, witnessed by Sam'l McDonald and Angus McDonald.

2. The Estimate for materials for the erection of a magazine at the Point of Fork:

* 15,000 Brick @ 40 Shill's pr. M,	£30. 0. 0.
600 Bushels lime @ 1 Shill'g pr. Bushel,	30. 0. 0.
Carriage of the Lime 25 miles,	27. 0. 0.
5,000 20dy. nails @ 13¼ Shill's p'r M,	3. 6. 8.
15,000 8dy " " 10 Shill's p'r M,	7. 10. 0.
	£97. 16. 8.

Six additional laborers to be hired, in order not to take away the Fatigue men that are cleaning arms from their work, &c.

3. The Estimate for clothing is for sixteen soldiers and six negroes. For the former, 1 blanket, 1 hat, 1 p'r Breeches, 2 p'r stockings, 4 shirts and four pairs of shoes each for the year; and for the negroes, 1 blanket, 1 p'r breeches, 2 p'r stockings, 3 shirts and 3 p'r shoes, &c., a Jacket and Peticoat for a negro woman.

Estimate for Forage and Rations for one year, and for a certain am't of beef, 218 Barrels of Corn for Forage and Rations; of meale, 12 months, @ 10 shill's p'r B'l, £109. 0. 0.

No. of Rations per day, viz:

Jno. Peyton,	2.
William Price, clerk,	1.
Armourers,	7.
Wives to ditto,	3.
Soldiers of ye Guard,	9.
1 woman and 2 children belonging to ditto,	3.
Public negroes,	9.
Total p'r Day,	34.

The whole, including Beef, from Oct. 1st to 31st June, cost £202. 0. 2.

* It does not appear why this material seems to have superseded the *Stone* above mentioned.

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In same Report is included the cost of mounting ten field pieces of artillery by David Ross, the gun-carriages delivered either at the Point of Fork or at Westham, at Twenty-five Pounds for mounting and completing each Field Piece, not including ammunition chests. The wheels were made of cast-iron, the carriages with as many screws as Capt. Peyton can furnish, and the remainder mounted with Blocks in the usual manner. The work was superintended by Capt. Peyton during the year 1785, up to the time he left the Post, when his successor, Major Langham, ordered ammunition boxes to be furnished, ten of which were made, secured with Iron at the corners, covered with canvass and painted. 1787. April 3d

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THOS. MERIWETHER TO THE GOVERNOR, April 4th

Making report of the condition, &c., of the public ordnance. In March, 1786, * Gov'r Henry taking into consideration the dispersed situation of the public ordnance, ordered Capt. John Peyton to visit the places where the cannon lay, to-wit: Richmond, Westham, Taylor's Ferry, Hanover Court House, New Castle, Cumberland Town, Chickahominy, Hood's, Nansemond, York, Norfolk, and the Eastern Shore, to inspect the condition of every gun, and report an estimate of the cost necessary to restore those of any value to a proper condition for service. These latter were ordered to be sent to Richmond, Hood's, Norfolk and New Castle, and Col. T. Meriwether was ordered to sell all those not worth restoring for service. In accordance with these orders Capt. Peyton made contra'ts to remove the guns from Chickahominy to Hood's, where they now lie on the beach. Those in Nansemond were removed to Fort Point, near Norfolk, and remain on the beach, except two that were mounted by Colo. Newton, and the field pieces at the Point of Fork were mounted on Field carriages. Iron wheels for the carriages of the heavy pieces were purchased of Mr. Ross, and are now at the Magazine. The report continues: "In March, 1787, T. M. was again directed to sell the disabled Ordnance, and to take measures for placing the rest under cover. In consequence whereof he has sold the disabled Pieces at Richmond, erected a shed, and formed a contract for placing the Serviceable Pieces therein. Colo. Newton has undertaken to sell the disabled Cannon at and near Norfolk, and place the rest under Cover."

A market for the disabled Pieces now offers, but I am ignorant of their number and value. Permit me to propose that Mr. Langham be immediately sent to view carefully the whole of the Public Ordnance, and that he be directed to report the condition of every Gun. The Executive will then be made acquainted with the exact number, size and condition of the serviceable Pieces, and I shall be informed of the number and size

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* See Calendar, March 18th, 1786.

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1788. April 4th — of the Pieces that may be sold. The money arising from the sales of the disabled Ordnance, (including a brass 18-pounder, disabled by having been Sawed into the caliber), I am confident would be sufficient to complete the removal of the Cannon to the places of Depository, to erect covers at those places, and to mount Several of the Pieces on Fort Carriages. Capt. Peyton furnishes an estimate of the expense of removing and mounting the Heavy Artill'y.

April 5th — JOHN HARVIE TO ARCH. BLAIR,

Richmond — Requesting him to obtain from the Council authority for a warrant for £30—being the rent of his house, used as the Land Office, for one year, &c.

April 12th — ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Washington county — He has ordered out a company of Rangers, but finds it very difficult to contract for provisions. One person was willing to enter into a contract provided the taxes of 1787 could be appropriated to paying him; but this could not be done without authority from the Executive. The Savages have not attacked the frontier as yet, but some damages lately done by the Southern Indians on the out-settlements on Holstein, on the N. Carolina side, and frequent depredations in Kentucky, warn him that danger is approaching. Concludes: "The commotions in what was called Franklin has subsided, and Mr. Sevier is elected a Member for the N. Carolina Convention."

April 14th — CAPT. RICH'D TAYLOR TO GOV'R RANDOLPH,

Hampton — In regard to Colo. Parker's decision as to the legality of vessels taking in goods at Norfolk being allowed to proceed to any part of Elizabeth river District without a permit. If this continue, it will afford ample pretexts for smuggling by small craft from any of the other States who may choose to say they are from Norfolk, and thereby pass new-Port-news. Concludes: "I purchased a whale Boat last week, which I shall occationally send into the different inlets from York River to Rappahannock, as she is small, and cannot be seen at so great a distance as large vessels."

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WILL. HETH TO GOV. EDMUND RANDOLPH. (PRIVATE.) 1788.

Sir:

To the circumstance of your Excellency's going to W'msburg on the 20th March, the Delegation and myself are inclined to attribute our not receiving answers to our letters of the 24th. April 16th New York

The delay in sending me powers to enter on the business may oblige me to remain here a tedious time, for Colo. Wadsworth, on whom I depend much for a liberal negotiation, is gone home, and tho' he promised the *President and myself that he would return the moment he was informed of the arrival of my powers and the necessity of his presence, yet, as he lives 130 miles from hence, we cannot reasonably expect him under 8 or 10 days, so much lost time *after* the rec't of your letter. My impatience at being so long detained here is the more irksome in my having nothing to do (for if Idleness with me is not the mother of mischief, it is the mother of very unruly sensations and painful conflicts between *Duty* and *passion.—Aside.* * * * *

We have been in a state of great tumult for a day or two past—the causes of which, as well as I can digest them from various accounts, are as follows: The young Students of Physic have for some time past been loudly complained of for their very frequent and wanton trespasses in the burial ground of this City. The Corpse of a young gentleman from the West Indias was lately taken up, the grave left open, and the funeral clothing scattered about. A very handsome and much-esteemed young lady of good connections was also recently carry'd off. These, with various other acts of a similar kind, inflamed the minds of people exceedingly, and the young members of the faculty, as well as the Mansions of the dead, have been closely watched. On Sunday last, as some people were strolling by the Hospital, they discovered *a something* hanging up at one of the windows which excited their curiosity, and making use of a stick to Satisfy that curiosity, part of a man's arm or leg tumbled out upon them. The cry of barbarity, &c., was soon spread; the young sons of Galen fled in every direction; one took refuge up a chimney. The mob rais'd and the Hospital appartments were ransacked. In the Anatomy-room were found three fresh bodies, one boiling in a kettle and two others cuting up, with *certain parts* of the two sexes hanging up in a most brutal position. These circumstances, together with the wanton and apparent inhuman complexion of the room, exasperated the mob beyond all bounds, to the total destruction of every anatomy in the Hospital, one of which was of so much value and utility that it is justly esteemed a great public loss, having been prepared in a way which costs much time and attention and requires great skill to accomplish.

On Monday morning the mob assembled again, and increased thro' the day to an alarming size. Vengeance was denounced against the faculty

*Of Congress.

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1788. April 16th

in general, but more particularly against certain individuals. Not a man of the profession thought himself safe. An innocent person got beat and abused for being *only dressed in black*. Two of the young tribe were unfortunate enough to fall into their hands, but the Mayor obtained them upon a promise of sending them to gaol—a measure to which in their rage they submitted, not reflecting that *sending them to goal* would secure them from their violence and resentment, and therefore, as soon as they found themselves thus defeated in their furious intentions respecting their captives, they repaired to the goal and commenced their attack (with all that intemperance and folly which ever marks the conduct of people assembled in that way), vainly endeavouring to break in, when they could do nothing more than break windows, &c., which they will be taxed to repair. The militia were ordered out, small parties were sent to disperse them, but they instantly disarmed those attachments, broke their guns to peices, and made them scamper to save their lives. The evening advanced apace, and the affair became very serious. The Governor, after trudging about all day, first *with* the mob in the morning, endeavouring to pacify and accommodate, and in the afternoon to assemble a body respectable enough to preserve the goal and to restore peace and good order, advanced about dusk with a number of the Citizens, but without any kind of order or without any other than a *few side arms* and canes, while the Adjutant-Gen'l of the militia, about 300 yards in his rear, led up in very good order about 150 men, tho' not more than half with fire-arms, among whom were many gentlemen of the city and strangers, volunteers. This body were not long before the goal before the bricks and stones from the mob provoked several to fire, and perhaps their might, on the whole, have been 60 guns discharged, but this is mere guess. This body made their way into the goal where a party remained all night, but a sally of 60 or 70 were defeated. Three of the mob were killed on the spot, and one has since died of his wounds, and several were wounded. One of them was bayonetted on attempting to force into a window of the prison which he saw filled with armed men, a proof of the astonishing lengths to which popular rage will sometimes carry men. Numbers on the Governor's side, besides himself, are severely bruised. Baron Steuben rec'd a wound just above the corner of his left eye and nose, from which he lost a great deal of blood. Mr. Jay got his scull almost cracked, and are both now laid up. Gen'l Armstrong has got a bruised leg, but is able to go out. Yesterday the militia turned out again, and made a respectable appearance, and paraded about exceedingly, both *Horse and Foot*, but it must be observed *that the enemy were not be heard of*. In truth numbers who were *in the mob on Monday evening* turned out *yesterday to support government*.

Compliments of respect attend your lady,

while I remain, Dear Sir, your most ob. Ser't.

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PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE, 1788.

Inclosing an Advice of Council, Dated January the 5th, 1788, The Field officers of the District, being generally notified, a number attended at the Place, to-wit: April 16th Danville, Kentucky

From the County of Lincoln: Benj. Logan, Esq'r., Co. Lieutenant, President.
John Logan, Colonel.
Baker Ewing, Major.
From the County of Bourbon: James Garrard, County Lientenant.
Benjamin Harrison, Lieut.-Colonel.
From the County of Fayette: Levi Todd, County Lieutenant.
James Trotter, Lieut.-Colonel.
From the County of Mercer: Gabriel Madison, County Lieutenant.
Joseph Lewis, Major.
Christopher Greenup was appointed Clerk to the Bord.

The Bord proceeded to take into consideration the orders of the Executive, before recited, and the letter from. his Excellency, the Governor, whereupon it is

Resolved, That Scouts be immediately ordered into service from each County in this District in the following proportion, to-wit: The County Fayette, to furnish Twelve men; Bourbon, eight men; Lincoln, eight men; Nelson, Twelve men; Mercer, six men; Jefferson, Twelve men, and Madison, eight men. That they be appointed by and under the direction of the commanding officer of the County from which they are ordered.

And whereas, from the imminent Danger which, at Present, threatens this District, and the Raviges that are daily committed on the Good People thereof by the Enemy, it is adjudged advisable that a competent force should be collected to oppose their incursions—

Resolved, That one-Twelfth of the militia in each County be appointed Rangers, agreeable to law, and ordered into immediate service, and to be appointed for the several Counties, as follows:

To the County of Fayette, sixty men; Bourbon, seventy-five men; Madison, thirty-six men; Lincoln, Thirty men; Mercer, Thirty men; Nelson, eighty men, and to Jefferson, Seventy-five men.

Resolved. That the men alloted to each County be stationed at such Places and in such Proportions therein as the Commanding officer of the County shall Direct, except otherwise ordered by this Bord.

The Commanding officer of each County authorized to contract for supplying the men in service for the defence thereof in the best manner he can, consistent with the Instructions of the Executive.

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1788. April 16th

The Comm'd'g officer of Fayette County to send to the defence of Bourbon thirty-eight men, and to Jefferson Co. twenty men, to range down the south side of Kentucky.

The Comm'd'g officer of Lincoln to send to defence of Madison Co. three men, to Nelson Co. eight men, and to Jefferson Co. (to be stationed at bullett's Lick), Eleven men.

The Comm'd'g Officer of Mercer Co. to send to defence of Jefferson Co. Twenty-one men, to be ordered out to those counties when ever called for by the Commanding officer thereof.

Capt. Thomas Tracy requested to deliver the public arms deposited in his custody proportionably to the annexed returns of the militia: Fayette, 1,800; Bourbon, 450; Madison, 400; Lincoln, 700; Mercer, 610; Nelson, 870, and Jefferson, 300, to be delivered on the Order of the Commanding officer. The Bord adjourned 'till the second monday in June next, to meet at this place.

Signed,

CHRISTOPHER GREENUP.
BENJAMIN LOGAN.

April 17th

JOSEPH MARTIN TO GOV'R RANDOLPH,

Enclosing copies of letters showing the alarmed state of the frontiers of Washington, Russel and Hawkins Counties, and indeed throughout the whole of Western N. Carolina and what had been known as Franklin, on account of the incursions of the Savages. Along the Holston and Clinch, in Powell's valley, and other places, the inhabitants were ready to leave the country. He himself had sold his station in the latter, and altho', through his influence with the Indians, they had not killed a man, woman or child within the Virginia line for several years past, unless something is now done, they will make a stroke upon the settlements. He is on his way to the Cherokee nation, and will exert his power with them to prevent their threatened attack. Concludes: "I omited in my last to mention the situation of the Bents of Tenasee, or the Musell Shoals. It's certain that a partie of French from Detroit with a number of Indians are now there Building Block houses with large Quantities of Goods. Some of these Traders are now in the Chickamagas," &c.

The letters enclosed are from his friends residing on the extreme frontiers. Joseph Hinds' house had been attacked, and his son killed and scalped. On their retreat the Indians had carried of many horses, and had killed the cattle, taking off the meat. A party had gone in pursuit, and overtook them encamped, and fired upon them, but without damage, as they escaped into a cain break. All the horses were, however, recovered, and several guns and much plunder taken, which were recognized as having belonged to some of the Cherokees; and James Robertson is

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ready to swear that he saw one of the guns in Chilhowe the Fall before, which belonged to Slim Tom's son. As commander of the Western County, he is called upon to render assistance, although many of the people consider themselves under the Government of North Carolina. Mr. White, in particular, who has been a great advocate for the State of Franklyn, sends to him for aid. 1788. April 17th

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WILLIAM RITCHIE TO THE GOV'R IN COUNCIL. April 21st

Sir:

If it is not an improper request, I *do* beg the favor of you and your honorable council to have the enclosed letter enregistred upon the same record with Mr. Roane's letter opposing the recommendation of the Court of Essex, respecting the nomination of a certain Gentleman as a Magistrate for that County. Richmond

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's
most obedient Servant.

ESSEX COUNTY, Feb. 1st, 1788.

Sir:

At the request of Mr. Wm. Ritchie, and in Justice to his character, I beg leave to inform your Excellency and hon'ble Council that I was misinformed as to what I men'd concerning that Gent. in my letter opposing a Recommendation of Essex Court. When I mentioned that that gentleman was in Britain and the British Islands during the late war, I did not mean to insinuate that he was disaffected, but the idea I meant to convey was, that on acc't of his absence from this country during the war, and his consequently not being an Eye-witness of the unpardonable conduct of the Tories here, he c'd not have had, at the Time of the Recommendation af's'd that laudable detestation for such characters which I judged every good citizen ought to have. It turns out, however, that I was mistaken. That Gentleman left Scotland in 1775, and resided not in the British but in neutral Islands afterwards. It affords me pleasure to beg leave to recal this mis-information, which might otherwise, perhaps, have operated in some degree to that gentleman's Prejudice.

I am y'r Excellency's
mo. ob't serv't,
SPENCER ROANE.

THE LAND TAX April 21st

Upon Buckingham Furnace, &c., being 2,852 acres for 1786, paid, viz:

Revenue..... £28. 17. 6.
Certificate..... £19. 5. 0.

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1788. AT A HUSTINGS COURT

April 22d Norfolk Borough

Continued and held the 22d day of April, 1788: The court recommends to the Governor, Mary Boush, widow of Goodrich Boush, late a captain in the Navy, it appearing to the court that the said Goodrich Boush died in the service of this State, leaving the said Mary Boush with four children, who were at the time of the death of the said Boush very young, &c. That the said Mary is in very indigent circumstances, and from her situation ought to be placed on the premium list.

A copy—Teste:

ALEX'R MOSELEY, *C. N. C.*

April 22d

JOS. PRENTIS TO GOV. ED. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Williamsburg

I received your Excellency's favour some time since, accompanied with a Commission as one of the Judges of the General Court, in consequence of an appointment made by the late General Assembly. Under this Commission, it is my present intention to engage in that office; and am, with much Respect,

Your Excellency's most obed't Servant.

April 23d

SAMUEL DAVIES TO THE GOVERNOR.

May it please Your Excellency:

Petersburg, Virginia

The Subscriber respectfully represents that in the year 1782 he qualified as a Justice of the Peace for the County of Dinwiddie; that in the year 1784 he removed to Prince George County, during which Period he frequently attended Dinwiddie Court and sat as a member thereof, and was present when it was asked by the presiding Magistrate what Members chose to resign their comission—a Question thou't necessary in order to comply with some requisition of the Executive at that time, to which my answer, altho' then a non-resident, was that I chose to continue in comission, there being at that time no magistrate in the Town of Petersburg (to which I was about to return in a short Period) but myself.

In January, 1785, I returned to Dinwiddie, and continued to act as a magistrate, as occasion offered, until a time, when an application was made for a warrant, Capt. Pegram, who was a member of the court, and present, informed me I was left out of a new Comission which had been issued. This, after what I had declared, surprised me much, as I was not conscious of any misconduct, neglect of duty or Malpractice in Office, and therefore could not be affected by the Act to extend the Powers of

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the Governor and Council, which Act has been declared by the last Assembly to be contrary to the Spirit of the Constitution. 1788. April 23d

I think it is somewhere said that if a Man is accused of any crime or malfeasance in Office, he shall be confronted with his Accuser, and shall have a trial. No such circumstances have ever happened to myself, nor do I hear of any charge, except that I have resided in another County one year since comissioned. My being displaced (in this illegal manner) naturally conveys censure to those unacquainted with the Circumstances, to which I cannot tamely submit, and as I have for these several years been a member of the Court of the Town of Petersburg, between whom and the County there has been, and still continues to be, so great a Jealousy, that all applications made to the County to recommend persons residing in the Town as Magistrates have been uniformly refused. I say, as this has been the case, and this jealousy exists, I have no expectation that the Court of Dinwiddie would recommend me to your Honourable Board for a reinstatement in Comission in the Same order in which I originally stood, and, therefore, am induced to apply to Your Excellency for that justice which I conceive my due, and pray that a new Comission may issue in which my name may be inserted as it originally stood, that I may in due course receive what the Law has allowed for the due execution of the duties of a Justice of the Peace.

I am Your Excellency's most obedient Servant.

LIST OF PRISONERS RETURNED, April 26th

With their several sentences under conviction for Murder, Burglary, Negro-stealing, to be hanged, &c. Those convicted of Felony merely were "burnt in the hand" and remanded to Jail for twelve months, &c. Richmond

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ROBERT BROUGH TO GOV'R RANDOLPH, April 31st

Enclosing his Official Bond as Searcher for that District. He complains of the insignificance of his salary, £20. per annum, when compared with the duties required in so extensive a District, and especially as he has a family. Hampton

It should be remembered that all vessels coming in and going to sea generally lie from newport news to the Old Fort, between the Bars, &c., which makes a circumference of 20 odd miles. The duty of the Searcher requires that he shall visit all these vessels, and to be continually on the pad to detect illicit Traders, and by ceaseless vigilance render less possible adventures in the Smuggling Business. If his duties were confined to Hampton Town, and the receipts there from Delivery of Goods, it would be trifling indeed. But as the Executive expect him to exercise

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1788. April 31st

due vigilance over the entire District, especially in the absence of the State Boats, which on account of Capt. Taylor's activity is very frequent, it occupies his time from sun to sun. In addition to this a row-boat is always needed, and when the wind is high a sail-boat is necessary to enable him to perform his duty. These cannot be hired for less than six shillings p'r day, and often more. In view then of the fact that the Duty of his office is certainly more hazardous and fatiguing than any other Searcher's in the State, he begs for a proportionate increase of pay. Concludes: "I heartily thank you, Sir, for this appointment. My Acknowledgements ought to have been made ere now, but I fear'd to be troublesome.

April

JOSEPH MARTIN TO GOV'R RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Washington county, Virginia

I return'd last evening from Green County, Washington destrict, North Carolina, after a tower through that Co'ntry, and am happy to inform your Excellency that the late unhappy dispute between the State of North Carolina and the pretended State of Franklin is subsided. I inclose two * Letters from the late Governor. Since the receipt of which I have seen him. I have met with some Dificulty in settling the dispute, and flatter myself that it is affected. I have Certain accounts that three Boats has been lately taken by the Indians coming down the Ohio. Col. Cox kill'd on Kentuckey, and several others on that Quarter and Cumberland.

The Cherokees has lately done some mischeif on Holston. The people on the frontiers are greatly alarm'd. It is said the Cherokees are about to remove. I have not visited them lately, as I could not do anything Officially. They have sent several Messages to me. I expect to set out for that quarter in a few days, and am very sorry that I cannot render that Service that I could wish, and have no power.

I have been much pressed upon to carry on an Expedition against the Cherokees, but am unwilling to do anything of that kind without proper authority, tho' I fear it will be out of my power to keep the people back much longer.

I am, with much respect,
Your Excellency's
Most humble and most obedient S't.

NUMEROUS OFFICIAL REGISTERS OF VESSELS

Built in the waters of Virginia, ranging from twenty to one hundred and twenty tons burthen, &c.

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*Not found.

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J. AMBLER 1788.

Reports amount of Crop and Transfer Tobacco on hand the 30th of April, viz.: 402 Hhds.; Crop weighing 432,214 pounds, and valued at £5,613. 9. 11.; Transfer Tobacco, nett weight, 44,851 pounds, valued at £580. 0. 2.; total, £6,193. 10. 1. May 1st Richmond Treasury office

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JAMES GARRARD, CO. LIEUT., TO GOV. RANDOLPH. May 1st

He had fowarded the proceedings of the court-martial in the trial of Capt John Waller. This had not been a legal court because of the frequent failure to convene a proper one, but Waller making no objection, he was tried by it. Since that time he pleads the inability of the court to break him of a commission to which he had never qualified. Under his Excellency's instructions of January last, received a *week ago*, a Board of Officers was convened at Danville, and have done all in their power towards protecting the country, but as they have no power to assume Offensive operations, he fears little good will result, and the inhabitants being almost daily injured, either in person or property, will continue to suffer from the Horrid depredations and merciless hands of the Indians. Insists that nothing but Expeditions into their country will effect anything, and nothing wou'd be more pleasing to this District than the Liberty of reducing them on their own Ground. Bourbon county

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(Circular.)

HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA. May 3d

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency, herewith enclosed, to be laid before your Legislature, a state of the Representation in Congress for the months of March and April, and am, Office of Secretary of Congress

With the greatest Respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient

and most humb. Serv't,

CHAS. THOMSON.

PATRICK HENRY TO GOV'R RANDOLPH. May 4th

Sir:

Colo. Holcombe, who lately acted as Sheriff of this County, being in arrears for some public money, &c., was informed that the Act of Grace of the last Session of Assembly permitted the payments in May. Whereas, Prince Edward county

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1788. May 4th on seeing the Act, I find they are limited to the 1st Day of April. This gives me much concern, as I conceive I may have been, in part, the Occasion of this Deception. I could not recollect the Day with certainty, but believed it was in May. Others, I am told, tho't so too. And it has not been 'till seven Days ago that the Laws for the County came up. By this it has happened that the intended Lenity of the Legislature is defeated as to Colo. Holcombe, the Time for payment being past before he knew of it, as he declares. And I know the Laws came up a few Days ago only.

I, therefore, entreat your Excellency's attention to Col. Holcombe's case, and as the Want of Promulgation of the Law has been the Reason of his Difficultys, I hope for your Excellency's pardon to me for giving you the Trouble of solliciting for him such Indulgence as you think is right and proper.

With the greatest Regard, I am Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient

and very humble Servant.

May 4th

WM. GRAVES, SEARCHER,

Norfolk Sends his annual account against the State. Rent of office, £10. 0. 0.; Six Quires paper for making a Register @ five shillings p'r quire, £1. 5. 0; to Paist-board and Canvis to Bind, &c., five shillings; To 4 Quire common paper, @ 1 shilling and 6 pence p'r quire, and to Ink-powder, quills, &c., 6 shillings, &c. Total, £12. 1. 0.

This claim was rejected by the Governor in Council.

May 5th REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE POST AT THE POINT OF FORK, BY EDMUND RANDOLPH, ESQ'R.

Point of Fork I this day visited the post at the Point of Fork. Having brought with me the last return of the Superintendant, I proceeded to inquire into its propriety. It was impossible to examine each article, even to the satisfaction of a man but imperfectly skilled, as the want of room is still an obstacle to a compleat arrangement.

The Arsenal of 40 by 20 is almost finished. The third floor is regularly stored with arms, in good and serviceable order, but will not hold more than about 3,000 arms. The second floor will, on account of its pitch, hold about 3,500 arms, and will exhibit the french arms in a very advantageous manner. The lower story, instead of being pillar'd with stone, is altogether of wood, and being cheaper thus finished, and equally useful, seems preferable. There seems to have been an inaccuracy in the return of muskets in repair. From the former Superintendant it appears to have originated, and his successor has fallen into it in some degree. For altho' particular defects are stated, yet are they more disordered than would appear to be the case upon the mere inspection of the return.

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However, Major Langham has done every thing in his power towards the completion, and I have recommended it to him to vary the return hereafter, according to precision. 1788. May 5th

The mill is at work, and about 25 Bayonets are ground there a day by two men. Hence an advantage of two to one is gained over a common grindstone. It is also ready to receive the apparatus for boring, when it shall become necessary. But it is not yet covered in. Some of the Arms already repaired and those which are daily repaired are huddled together for want of room. Another Arsenal of the same size with that now built would be sufficient for present purposes, and would tend to facilitate the inspection of the Arms, and clear the lumber-rooms for receiving boxes, &c.

The expence of this second building will not exceed one hundred and sixty pounds, and the workmanship will not exceed seventy-two pounds, if workmen are hired.

Service, whether of fatigue, guard, or cleansing of Arms, is regularly distributed among the soldiers. The last sale of powder, to the amount of one thousand lbs., is to be on the 21st of this month.

The bricks for building the magazine have been undertaken by Colonel Richard James at twenty-five shillings per thousand, to be delivered at the landing.

Major Langham has not purchased any flints, and seemed disposed to import them. But I advised him rather to pay an increased price in buying them at hand, than for a trifle to incur by delay any possible risk to the country.

The houses at the post are much injured from the want of paint, and are, thereby, more exposed to danger from fire. Major Langham advises that they be immediately painted.

All the officers were present except two, who have been permitted to go to the planting of corn at the plantation of one of them, with a deduction of their pay for every day of absence.

The complement of soldiers was present. A child of Michael Jordan, and another of John Lane, both of whom are now soldiers, and have been old soldiers, draw rations. A correspondence on this subject has taken place betwen Colonel Merriwether and Major Langham. The land purchased for the fuel of the Post is supposed to be equal to the consumption of about twenty years.

The stone for building the magazine is getting into place, and the foundation will soon be laid.

But a military establishment never existed with so feeble a power of defence. It is exposed to destruction, not only from the successful attack of a few determined and well-prepared men, but even from the negligence or corruption of a single Centinel. I verily believe that without better defence the military stores will fall a sacrifice to some daring attempt or other.

Signed, EDM. RANDOLPH.

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1788. ROBERT MINNS

May 5th Henrico county — Having been presented by a Grand Jury and fined by the County Court for keeping a Disorderly House and retailing liquors contrary to law, makes petition to the Executive for remission of the said fine of Sixty Pounds. At the time he was complained against he kept a Billiard Table, which had been duly entered, and he had paid a tax of fifteen pounds specie for one year, and fife pounds specie to the Corporation. This was all he thought necessary to be done, as it was the practice at every Table in Town to play for punch or some other liquor, and to take it from the keeper of the table, who, in no one instance, took out a Tavern licence on that account. His house was an orderly one, and the gaming charged in the presentment was only playing at Billiards, &c. Sundry gentlemen, *J. Marshall*, John Stewart, *John Beckley*, Geo. Pickett, Rob't Mitchell and Frederick Thomas certify that they had frequently been at the billiard table of the petitioner and had never seen anything to warrant the charge made against him.

May 5th — JOHN FOSTER TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Richmond — Asking for permission to take a ship, in a leaky condition, to Broadway, where there are every necessary for heaving the ship down, &c., to have her repaired, there being not any place convenient for the Purpose at City Point, &c.

May 6th — SAMUEL EDDIN'S BOND

Yorktown — As Searcher for that District, in the penalty of one thousand pounds current money, &c.

May 8th — ED. CARRINGTON, J. BROWN, AND C. GRIFFIN, DELEGATES, TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

New York — Until a few days ago there has not been a Congress for taking into consideration your Excellencie's lettter of the 13th of March requesting, a prolongation of the time allowed for rendering the accounts of the State against the U. S. to the district Commissioner. We took the earliest opportunity to lay this letter before Congress. It was referred to the Board of Treasury, whose report thereupon we have now the honor to inclose. This report expressly liberates the State Commissioners from the duty of restating the accounts under the heads directed on the part of the United States. He is already at liberty to render them in the forms in which they

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have been kept, and the restatements, if any such are necessary, must be made by the district commissioner. As your Excellencie's letter stated no facts upon which Congress could found an opinion that an extension of the time would be necessary from any other circumstance, and as no application of the kind has been made by any other State, it was thought best by that Body to concur with the Board in refusing the request of Virginia, permitting the delegation to transmit the report to your Excellency for your more full information. 1788. May 8th

We beg leave to recommend that the Commissioner on the part of the State immediately tender the Accounts to the district Commissioner in their original forms, if he has not time to restate them, and should this produce a difficulty, let that arise from the adverse party. Should there be any particular facts or circumstances putting it out of the power of the State Commissioner to render the Accounts according to this advice, it will be well for him to state them fully to your Excellency to be transmitted to Congress, when we will endeavour to make them a ground for obtaining such extension of the time as you may think necessary to ask for.

We have the Honor to be, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellencie's most Ob't Serv'ts.

ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO THE EXECUTIVE, May 8th

Requesting instructions as to how he is to proceed with regard to charges made against the United States for collecting and transporting the Specifics required of this State under the Act of the Legislature of Feb'y 25th, 1780, inasmuch as the Commissioner of Congress has called upon him for further authority upon that Subject. Commissioner's office

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P. MUHLENBERG, VICE-PRES'T, TO GOV. RANDOLPH, OF VA., May 9th

Requesting, on the part of the Executive Council of that State, to be supplied with copies of the Laws of Virginia relating to unpatented lands in the Counties of Youghhiogany, Monongalia and Ohio, and all other Laws upon the subject enacted by Virginia before the final ratification of the compact between that State and Pensylvania, in order to the settlement of disputes between persons claiming lands in that region of country, &c. Philadelphia, In Council

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WM. ROSE, KEEPER OF THE P. JAIL, May 10th

Informs the Governor in reply that the youth, Elijah Hughes, condemned for Horse-stealing, is only about nineteen years of age, and was inveigled into committing the crime by falling into the company of the noted Parson Richmond

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1788. May 10th — Richards, who was prowling about the Country, and who being an old offender, with all the cunning and masterly address of a subtle Robber, genteel in Person and Dress, would find it no difficult matter to take in an inexperienced Boy, &c.

May 10th — P. CARRINGTON, PET. LYONS, AND WM. FLEMING, JUDGES OF THE GENERAL COURT,

Richmond — Making report of their review of the cases of several unfortunate persons convicted of crimes, &c., to the Executive. They recommend to Executive clemency John Campbell, condemned to death for Horse-stealing, but decline to interfere in the cases of the following criminals, viz: John Cody, late of Parish of St. James'-Northam, Goochland, laborer, for murder; John Wilson, Parish of ——, in County of Spotsylvania, Negro-stealing; Wm. Armstrong, late of N. Kent, for Burglary; John Candy, late of Caroline, for Burglary; Wm. Covern, late of Augusta Co., for Horse-stealing; James Vance, late of Frederick Co., for Horse-stealing; Elijah Hews, late of Brunswick, for Horse-stealing, were severally sentenced to be hanged, &c.

May 12th — WILLIAM ROSE, K. P. JAIL, TO THE GOVERNOR,

Expressing his great concern and confusion of mind, &c., at having inadvertently let out of confinement a criminal who was ordered a repreive, instead of a pardon, as he supposed. Mr. John Cunliffe was present when the mistake was made, and testifies to the facts of the case, and how the mistake occurred.

May 12th — COLO. LEVI TODD TO GOV'R RANDOLPH.

Fayette county, Kentucky — The Orders of the Executive of the 5th January arrived about four weeks past. He is apprehensive he will not be able to carry out the plan therein suggested, inasmuch as no one can be found to contract for the Rations needed, for want of money, and the doubt whether the fund is sufficient to pay the entire cost when due. Two lives and a number of Horses had been lost so far this season. Concludes: "A party, a few days past, pursued some yellow theives, came up with them after a chase of about 70 or Eighty miles. One of them offered to surrender and was kept prisoner three days, and then, by the Sleepiness of a Centry, escaped. They found the Gentleman to be an old acquaintance—Blue Jacket, a Shawnese Chief of considerable note and Property, and the one who, a few months ago, had the principal part of the management of the exchange of prisoners with Col. Logan at Limestone, when such strong professions of Friendly Dispositions were made.

Capt. Fowler, a Representative from Fayette, will be the bearer. From him and the other Kentucky Representatives every satisfactory Information from the District may be had.

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J. BROWN, CL'K., 1788.

Certifies that six months' rent of the Office of the General Court has been due since the 21st April to Messrs. Cohen & Isaacs, viz: £17. 10s. 0. in specie or its equivalent. May 12th Richmond

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DR. FRANKLIN TO GOV'R RANDOLPH. May 12th

Sir:

I received the letter your Excellency did me the honour of writing to me the 15th of December last, relating to Mr. Elam, and I thereupon gave him a note directed to the Managers of the Hospital, requiring them that if he were again brought—to be confined as insane—they should acquaint me before they received him, that I might inquire into the case, of which before I had never heard anything. Sometime after, several of the Heads of the Society of Quakers came to me with a complaint that he frequently disturbed their religious Meetings, and inform'd me that his Confinement in the Hospital was obtain'd for him as a favour by his Friends on Account of his Insanity, he being at that Time imprison'd in the common Goal for Breach of the Peace and for insulting the Magistrate before whom he was brought, by spitting in his Face; that his Friends were still of opinion the Confinement and Treatment of the Hospital for some time might be advantageous to him, but they had continued to bear with the Disturbances he occasioned after his escape from thence, and had not replaced him there through Respect to your Letter, which had been communicated to them. Upon this I sent for him, acquainted him with the Complaint, and represented to him the Impropriety of his Conduct in disturbing any religious Society in their Meetings, which I told him the Government could not suffer, and advis'd him to behave more prudently. He did so, as I was inform'd, for sometime, but renewing his Offences, which became intolerable, the Manager of the Hospital took him up as an escap'd Patient, and again confin'd him, but he broke out and escap'd a second time, and obtained a Protection from the Chief Justice. The Physicians of our Hospital, who are the principal of the City, have given it as their Opinion, under their hands, that he is really insane, and I have been shown several of his Letters, which mark strongly that State of Mind, yet, as often as I have seen him, he discours'd rationally, so that I take it to be a temporary occasional kind of madness, which, in some constitutions, is produced by even a few Glasses of Wine. In these Fits, however, he has been very troublesome to the Quakers, as your Excellency will see by the enclosed, which they have given me to send to you. I also enclose a Letter, just receiv'd from him, in which he mentions my having laid horrid Crimes to his Charge. I know not what this means, having only acquainted him, in mild Terms, with the Complaints of the Philadelphia

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1788, May 12th — Quakers as above. And the Petition, of which he sends me a copy, dated the 21st of Oct'r, said to be annexed to a Letter from Wm. Pollard, never came to my hands, neither the one nor the other. I have been thus particular, as your Letter mentions a desire of obtaining full Information. Your Excellency may depend on my showing every Respect in my Power to any Interposition or Recommendation of yours in favour of any of your Citizens; but this Gentleman's excentric conduct has brought him into Difficulties which I could not prevent.

With great and sincere esteem,

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant.

His Excellency, Gov'r Randolph.

May 13th — ROBERT ANDREWS TO ARCHIBALD BLAIR, ESQ'R.,

Williamsburg — acknowledging receipt of his letter of the 10th inst., enclosing an Order for the Sale of the Gosport Lands and appointing him to conduct that business. He begs the Executive to be informed that he will undertake that office and pay the strictest attention to their directions. A Plan of Gosport is in his possession.

May 13th — J. AMBLER TO ARCH. BLAIR,

Treasury office — Informing him that the prospect of real money in any of the funds appropriated to the support of Civil Government continues still as unpromising as it has been for a long time past. There will be a necessity to borrow from other funds to raise even the £8,000 directed by the Assembly to defray the expences of the approaching Convention.

May 14th — VIRGINIA—*to-wit:*

Richmond — *By his Excellency* EDMUND RANDOLPH, ESQUIRE,

Governor of the Commonwealth:

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, a remonstrance to the General Assembly hath been delivered to the Executive by the President of the Honorable Court of Appeals, declaring, among other things, "that the Constitution and the Act entituled an Act establishing district courts are in opposition and cannot exist together; that the former must controul the latter, and that the said Court ought not to do anything officially in the execution of an Act which appears to be contrary to the spirit of the Constitution; and it hath been moreover adjudged by the said court that Clerks of the District

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Courts ought not now to be appointed, for reasons contained in the said remonstance, which the said Court have requested to be laid before the General Assembly at their first Session: 1788. May 14th

And whereas, an opportunity as early as possible ought to be given to the Legislature to revise the said Act and examine the proceedings of the said Court according to the standard of Constitutional right, I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of State, to call the General Assembly to meet at the public buildings in the City of Richmond on Monday, the 23d day of June next; and the several Senators and Delegates are hereby required then and there to meet in order to consult concerning the premises.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth at Richmond this fourteenth day of May, in the Year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, and of the Commonwealth the twelfth.

EDM. RANDOLPH.

JOHN P. DUVALL TO GOV. RANDOLPH. May 14th

Sir:

I Rote your Excellency about the Last of March or the first of April, respecting the Rangers and Scouts of this County, to which Letter I co'ld wisht to have had a answer, as I am at a Loss to know how to conduct myself. The Council of Officers which I call'd for the apointment of the Scouts construed the meaning of the Order of the Executive in a different point of view to what I Did myself. They suposed four scouts consisted of eight men, as two men generally go on a Scout, and therefore, agreable to there Determination, I sent out the hole Eight, but have since suspended one-half of them, waiting your Excellency's further orders thereon; but at the same time, as I have this Day Received Information, and from good authority, that the Savages has lately fell on the Inhabitants of the Big Kanaway, if so, we may Expect a Visit from them Every Day, and shall be under the necessity of Sending out the hole of them, as the Extent of our fronteer Can't possibly be covered with Less, as we have the Greater part of Randolph County to cover; and in case I should have Ben Right in suposing that four men was the intention of the Executive, hope they will again take the mater under consideration and augment the number to eight. The Rangers has been kept out from the first of March, and I feare shall be under the necessity to continue them out the hole Season, as I am informed that the Indians Refuse to treat with the New Englanders as has Been Expected, and we are told they are Disposed for War, but as a friend to the public Treasury, as well as to my county, shall Discharge the Rangers, or a part of them, as soon as there is any apearance of Safty. Harrison county

Be Pleas to send by the Bearer, Mr. Anderson, Every Instruction neadful, as I have Rec'd none from you since I saw you, and am, sir,

Your Excellency's

most ob't Hum'e Serv't.

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1788. GEO. NICOLSON

May 15th Richmond — Presents a claim for hire of certain negro slaves to the State during the late war at the Salt Petre works of Mr. Charles Lynch, and subsequently at the Lead mines. The fellows had been rated by Capt. John Peyton at £12 each p'r year, and the wenches at about £5 p'r year, which hire had been paid in Lead to the State.

May 15th ALEXANDER BARNETT TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Russell county — He has been awaiting further instructions in regard to the scouts necessary to protect that county. On the twentieth of April a band of Indians came into the Rye Cove settlement and carried off three Boys, two of the name of Carter, and a negro belonging to those of the same name, but did not kill any one in the settlement. Immediately upon hearing of this he ordered out men from three companies, under the command of Ensign Blackamore. A man named Henry Hamblin, living in the Cove, and much attached to the Crown of Brittain Deuring the contest, induced the Rangers to go back, telling them the people wanted men to be stationed instead of them. He begs, moreover, that aid be sent at once to that country, with due regard to the expence to the government. The amendments to the militia Law, made by the last Assembly, have been ruinous in their consequences, and many of the men seem determined to dispose of their arms, in as much as the State could better afford to supply them than they could themselves.

He thinks that three small stations, of ten men each—one near Rye Cove, and two in Powell's valley—if not two expensive, will suffice at present, Tho' he is still of opinion that the Indians will not again attack that country, as they do not make two attempts at one place the same year. One of the boys captured is son of Mr. Carter, a representative for that county.

May 15th DAVID SHEPPERD, CO. LIEUT., TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Ohio county — In accordance with his instructions he has raised the men necessary to the defence of that County, but a greater force was required than the Executive had authorized to protect a frontier of eighty miles. He had not been able to make a contract for supplying the men at the stated price, as the Continental Contractors receive nine pence in the same District. This required him to purchase, upon his own responsibility, food for the men on duty. By an inclosed statement the prices of provisions

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may be seen, viz: one pound Bacon, 6d., Va. currency; one cwt. flour, 10 shillings; one cwt. Beef, 15 shillings; one bushel of salt, 20 shillings; and one gall. whiskey, 3 shill's 9 pence, currency. The package and wastage will make the Ration to average 8d. The Indians had not made any attack this spring, except to kill one man on the Great Kanhaway, which was doubtless due to the way in which the Treaty, now on foot, had been observed, &c. 1788. May 15th

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EXPRESS RIDERS May 19th

Despatched to the several Counties throughout the State with copies of the Proclamation convening the Legislature, and with letters from the Solicitor's office in regard to the settlement of claims against the United States, on account of the late war, &c. 170 copies of the former, being one to each Delegate, were sent out, and 24, being one for each Senator. 85 to be posted at some prominent place in each County, 2 additional to each Kentucky member, and 6, being 1 to each Printer, and 87 for scattering and for each borough. Letters to Colo. Campbell, at Louisville; to Colo. McClary, at Morgantown; and to Colo. Duval, Harrison Co.

ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO GOV. RANDOLPH, May 20th

Commissioner's office

In regard to the difficulties that will prevent a presentation of the whole of the claims of this Commonwealth upon the Union in due time. These had, in part, been expressed in former communications. In these he had referred particularly to divers advances that appeared unaccounted for. To the subject of the Specific accounts, the papers relating to which, upon examination, were found to be deficient in the evidence necessary, and to the several obstacles that will operate against the attainment of evidence that a longer term would admit. He regrets exceedingly that the limited time will not admit of his obtaining more complete testimony, in as much as he has patience and perseverance, and can distinguish difficulties from impossibilities in the prosecution of his duties. The Commissioner for the U. S. requires an account of the service of the navy, the gallies or armed vessels, the work done for the Continent at the ship yards, and by the several State artificers. These, together with delays in rendering accounts, failures to account for monies and stores, and the inability of those applyed to for the information required, will totally prevent a just delivery of claims arising therefrom.

The vouchers that are presented may be deemed good, but in the eyes of the adverse party they may be faulty. The State being precluded further testimony in such cases, I think rather savours of an *ex post facto* Law. The great variety of good evidence contained in the Books of the Legislature, Executive, Committee of Safety, the Commissioners of the Navy, of Trade, Board of War, Commissarys of Stores and Provisions,

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1788. May 20th

the Agents of the State, Public Workmen, of the Q'rmaster's and Hospital Departments, with Keepers and Directors of magazines and manufactures, would be found, on examination, impossible to be extracted, admitting they could all be had.

The affidavits that are necessary to prove the services of the militia when the Pay-Rolls are insufficient, would require a considerable time to obtain, and of necessity must be preceded by an examination of each voucher now offered and not examined by the District Commissioner. * * * * * * So great a part of the business being to be transacted at a distance from the State, and, of course, deprived of the aids contained in the several Records, must operate exceedingly against the claims, and would, I should judge, fully prove the propriety of admitting *evidence* in favor, after the delivery of the claims, &c.

May 23d

ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO THE EXECUTIVE OF VA.

Sir:

Commissioner's office

In compliance with the Order of Council of the 21st Inst., I have to state the reasons why I judge the limitted term of time for presenting the claims of Virginia against the United States will be too short to insure justice to the State, or a complyance with the views of Congress.

And, first. The claims arising from Bounties paid and advances made for the Recruiting Service. The proofs required by the Commissioner of the District are, the Receipt of the Soldier for his Bounty, and that of an Officer for the Recruit, or a Muster-Roll proving his Inlistment. These evidences cannot in any one instance be applyed to the support of the claims; either one or the other may be often met with, but its not being full, in the view of the Commissioner, the State will be exposed to a possible loss, unless she has the power to call the Recruiting Officer to account, and on the Receiving Officer for his vouchers of the delivery of the Recruits.

Secondly. Pay and Depreciation of Pay. The rules by which claims of this nature will be tryed, it is said, are: the Muster-Rolls, to ascertain the term of service, and an account properly stated and attested, with a Certificate of a Field Officer to that of each non-Com'd and Private, and a receipt for the sum paid. In almost every instance the essential parts of these demanded evidences are found wanting, and not being able to get a Register of Certificates Issued will affect the whole of those claims, unless the State has an opportunity of procuring testimony that will incontrovertibly prove her right to a credit for the advances, and these cannot possibly be obtained within the limitted time.

Thirdly. Advances to the Militia. The proofs demanded in support of these claims are: Authority of Congress for calling them out, the evidence of an Officer of the United States that they were in actual Service, with the Rolls attested and Receipts for payment. A very few of the

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Militia Accounts has the Sanction of the first of these proofs, very many of them want the second and third, and all of them the last, and no Register or entry of the Amount Issued. These deficiencies will naturally produce a considerable loss, unless we have time indisputably to prove the second and third which will aid the rest. 1788. May 23d

Fourthly. Requisitions—Specific. The evidences for charges arising from these supplies are pointed out in the Resolutions of Congress of the 25th of feb'y, 1780. Many of the officers appointed by the State to collect and deliver the specifics kept the Rules and Regulations very little in view; for instead of giving an evidence of supply in an intelligible manner, divination is often necessary to comprehend their intentions; and in their deliveries they neglected the Resolutions; for instead of delivering only to the officer therein named, marching troops, with Field and Subordinate Officers, Serg'ts, Corporals and Denizens were partakers, and their evidences of little or none effect. Now, unless time is allowed to prove the right of these to provisions from the Continent, one-half of this account must be lost.

Fifthly. Claims arising from advances made or supplies to and for the Continent in the Q'r-Master, Comm'y's, Clothing, Hospital and Marine Departments, or under any other Description whatsoever: the proofs demanded in these are, the evidences of supply or service; that it expressly was for the service of the United States; the actual receipt of a Continental officer; an Account properly attested, and a receipt for payment. The manner in which the business of these Departments has been conducted will defy human nature strictly to comply with the foregoing, and when any one or more of the required proofs are found wanting, others being full as to themselves are considered as of non effect. Add to this the failure in many of the officers to account for monies and stores received, a loss of Papers, the necessity of an explanation of defective entries or vouchers, with receipt for payment, all conspire to invalidate or destroy the claims, unless time is granted to attain information that will be the result of my applications made and to be made, that will prove the advance or service necessary, and that it was for the general good.

Thus, Sir, I have endeavored to inform the reasons that appear to me a bar to that just and equitable credit this State has a right to receive in the settlement of her accounts with the United States, and will now endeavor to prove that the wish of Congress cannot be answered.

The Comm'r of the District is to give a Descriptive acknowledgement for the accounts and vouchers for monies paid on account of Bounties, Pay and Depreciation of Pay, advances to the Militia, and on account of Requisitions. In order to do this in a manner that appears highly proper a much longer time than is allowed will be found necessary, and to depart from a form that appears indispensably necessary for the security of the State, as well as ease to the examination hereafter, without having previously allowed time for the State to arrange and class their claims after a

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1788. May 23d form that was struck out and evidence made known not four months before the limitted time for a delivery of all her claims, would be to demand what cannot be thought consistent with justice or propriety, and for the Comm'r of the District to give his acknowledgement in as full a manner as would be required, without stating facts, might lay him open to censure. Congress must be well convinced that in accounts of such magnitude some system and accuracy is necessary. They have demanded it, and still expect to find it in the conduct of their Officers. Precision is warmly contended for on their part. Time fully sufficient has hitherto, and, no doubt, except in the present case, now is, allowed their officers to make their works conformable thereto; and if this is just and right the expediency of equal privilege to the State is proved by their own reasoning.

It may probably be advanced that the State has had sufficient time to dress up and support her claims with any aids now attainable. This may be true, but the evidences now brought against the United States have been deemed good in the view of Sworn Officers, and are better supported than charges of a local nature that have been passed and paid as just.

These considerations, with that of the forms and evidences demanded, being unknown until nearly two months after notification, and the latter lying dormant during the absence of the Commissioner from Feb'y 5th until the 2d Inst., and at this day something new turns up as expedient, would, I should judge, fully prove the necessity of prolonging the time to answer the views of Congress, and afford the State that justice the Ordinance grants as a right.

I have the Honor to be with respect, Sir,
Your most ob't Serv't.

May 24th Charleston

GOV'R THOMAS PINCKNEY TO THE GOV'R OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

I have the honor of informing your Excellency that the Convention of the people of South Carolina this day ratified the Constitution proposed for the Government of the United States by the fœderal Convention.

With due consideration and respect
I remain your Excellency's
Most obedient humble Servant.

Ayes 149; nays 73.

May 25th

JOHN BOWYER TO THE GOVERNOR,

Informing him that the Militia light Horse Company, to be raised agreeable to the Act of Assembly, &c., will soon be completed, except as to the arms. He therefore requests that the latter, Swords and pistols, be furnished from the Public Magazine to the Privates. The Officers will

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give security for their return in good order, and will see that they are kept in as good if not better condition than if left in the Magazine. Capt. Caruthers will wait upon his Excellency for an answer, &c. Concludes: "Great success to the new Constitution." 1788. May 25th

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JOHN FRAZER TO THE GOVERNOR, May 26th

Requesting compensation for purchases made by his father during the war, whose estate had been sold to pay for the articles bought by him for public use, with interest on the debt added, &c. Richmond

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ESTIMATE OF THE EXPENSE OF THE ARSENAL May 27th

Ordered to be built in addition to the one already built at the Point of Fork: Point of Fork

16,000 feet of Plank	@ 65 shillings p'r M.,	£52.	0. 0.
8,000 20d. nails,	@ 13. 4d. p'r M.,	5.	6. 6.
10,000 10dy. "	@ 10 shill's p'r M.,	5.	0. 0.
15,000 8dy. "	@ 8s. " " "	6.	0. 0.
5,000 6dy. "	@ 6s. " " "	1.	10. 0.
5 Locks,	6 shillings,	1.	10. 0.
Provision @ 7d. p'r Ration,		21.	5. 10.
Workmanship by hiring workmen,		72.	0. 0.
		£164.	12. 4.

E. LANGHAM.

JOSEPH HORNSBY, TREASURER HOS. FOR LUNATICS, TO THE GOVERNOR, May 29th

Enclosing copy of an Order of the Court of Directors of the Hospital for Lunatics for a warrant for six hundred pounds, authorized by joint vote of the General Assembly, January 8th, 1788, and requesting him to instruct the Auditor accordingly. Williamsburg, Virginia

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SUNDRY REGISTERS OF VESSELS ENTERED

As having been built in Virginia at different places: Norfolk, Kingston, Glouster Co., Sandy point, Pungoteague, Gloucester, Four-mile Creek, and ranging from thirty to two hundred and forty tons burthen.

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1788. GEO. LAUGHLIN, DEP. CLERK,

June 2d Henrico county — Certifies that Lot no. 762, in the city of Richmond, being one-half acre of land, was taken on the thirty-first of May, 1788, for public use, and was valued at Three hundred and seventy pounds current money.

June 2d — I DO CERTIFY

Henrico county — That I have this day administered to the Hon'ble Wm. Heth the oaths required by Law to be taken by a member of the Privy Council.

Given under my hand the 2d June, 1788.

J. PENDLETON.

June 4th — RESOLUTIONS

In Congress — Establishing amount of compensation to David Henly for his Services as third commissioner for settling the claims of Virginia on account of the Western Territory ceded by that State to the United States. Three dolls. pe. day allowed on the part of the United States, &c.

June 4th — J. PARKER TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Naval Office, Norfolk — Expressing his doubts whether the naval Officer at Hampton has a right by law to receive deposits from vessels in Hampton Roads. It is impossible that the Searchers can attend them and at their ports also. He is sure that many goods are imported into the State from Maryland which are never entered, but are smuggled into inlets where there is no searcher. On this account he thinks there should be an Officer of this kind at Smithfield, Cabin point and at W'msburg to watch the neighboring inlets, &c. A quantity of Rum had lately arrived at that place from Alexandria which had been sold much lower than their merchants can afford it for. The number of vessels this year to Maryland exceeds any former time, and our imports has lessened extremely. The goods imported into Maryland are consumed in this State, consequently norfolk loses the business legitimately her own, and the revenue from customs is thereby much diminished. He does not know how this State of things can be changed, unless under the compact law between Maryland and Virginia certain vessels are precluded from importing goods of foreign production or manufacture. Continues: The melancholy appearance of these towns, Norfolk, Hampton, &c., surpasses any period I have known before or since the

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Revolution, hence a radical defect must be ascribed to something, the cause I am not able to point out; but I trust you will, sir, at the next session of the Assembly devise such ways and means as may again cause this place to flourish, as it certainly has every advantage that nature has afforded to any part of the United States, and as it grows into importance the State must be advantaged, &c., &c. 1788. June 4th

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MR. BLAGROVE June 4th

Presents his compliments to His Excellency, the Governor, and requests the Favour of him to issue a warrant for a Quarter's Salary due on the 14th of last March, as Ordinary at the Public Prison. Council Chamber

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A STATE OF THE REPRESENTATION IN CONGRESS, June 7th

For the month of May, 1788, Pursuant to the Act of 17th August, 1785. Messrs. Gilman and Wingate, of N. Hampshire, not absent at all; Mess. Dane and Otis, of Massachusetts, not absent at all; Mr. Arnold, of Rode Island, absent eleven days; Mr. Mitchell, of Connecticut, absent altogether; Messrs. Gansevoort and Hamilton and Yates, absent but twice; Messrs. Clarke and Dayton, of N. Jersey, absent three days; Messrs. Irvine, Armstrong, Reid, and Bingham, of Pensylvania, present the entire month; Messrs. Kearney and Mitchell, of Delaware, absent four days; Messrs. Ross and Seney, of Maryland, absent four days; Messrs. Griffin, Carrington, and Brown, not absent a day; Messrs. Williamson and Swann, of N. Carolina, absent ten days; Messrs. Huger, Parker, and Tucker, of S. Carolina, absent one day; Messrs. Baldwin and Few, of Georgia, absent fourteen days.

From the 2d to the 30th of the month the Congress sat only nineteen days, the lowest number of States represented being seven, and the highest being ten.

THOS. HOLTS June 7th

Sends to Colo. Arthur Campbell, nine Quarter and two half Barrels of State Powder, but knows not the weight thereof. New London, Bed

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ED. CARRINGTON TO GOV. RANDOLPH, June 9th

Enclosing Act of Congress extending the time for settlement of the accounts of the States with the United States, &c. New York

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1788. GEO. CLENDENIN TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

June 9th Richmond

In compliance with your Excellencie's letter directing the County Lieutenant of Greenbrier to have a company of Rangers in readiness in case the county should be invaded by the savages, I immediately, on my return home from the Gen'l Assembly last winter, proceeded to have them In readiness. Some I have procured by Inlistment, and the others I was under the necessity of calling on agreeable to Rotation.

As soon as the winter broke up, I had information from all quarters that the Indians ware determined to break up the settlements on the Ohio and Kanawa, or that part thereof that was Frontier to Greenbrier and Montgomery. On which I ordered out one-half of the Ranging Company allowed for Greenbrier, together with the scouts. The set out on the first of April to the mouth of Elk, being the place best situated to give succour to the Inhabitants of said county. I accompanied them, and on my arrivel I sent two of the scouts to Point Pleasant, in order to procure Intelligence how Colo. Thomas Lewis was circumstanced, and whether any Indians had been lately there or not. His answer to me was that he had just Received an express from a certain Major Harmor, who, with a number of Inhabitants from Boston, was about to settle on Muskingum, that some of the friendly Indians had communicated to him that several companies of their people had set out with an Intention to destroy the people on the Ohio and Kanawa. He also sent me word that the day before the spies I had sent down arriv'd at that place, that there had crossed the Ohio about a mile above the point, or the place the town is situated, twenty-six Indians; that there was, on the Opposite side of the River, three Rafts, with Ten paddles on each, that ware not yet put into the River; that they had killed a man that lived with him in the town the day before, and had taken all the horses that belonged to the Inhabitants of that place, except a few of his that he had kept in inclosures for fear of them. And that he had fail'd to pursue them on account of their numbers, and at the same time pressed me exceedingly to send him some men, as he would be under the necessity to evacuate the place. However, before this Intelligence reached me, there came twenty-two of them, and viewed the mouth of Elk, and finding a number of men there, very contrary to their expectations, they immediately dispersed in small numbers, and took In hand their favorite business of horse-stealing, until they could collect a sufficient number, as I suppose, to answer their purpose. We then gave word Immediately, on the discovery of their sign, to the Inhabitants of the place, and got them in as good a posture of defence as possible. On Saturday night, the nineteenth of April, the stole three of our horses out of Elk bottom. On the next morning we discovered it, and about ten o'clock set out after them, and camp'd within about half a mile of them—being thirty miles distance from the place where the stole the horses. In order to overtake them, my brother, who commanded the party, started as soon as day

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broke, and came on them before it was scarcely light enough to shoot with sertainty. The party killed one of the Indians, took their Guns and plunder, and brought back the horses. There was but three Indians in Company; the other two took the advantage of the twilight to make their escape. During the time my brother and the men ware in pursuite of the first party, they Indians were engaged all Sunday night in endeavoring to get the Remainder of our horses over the Kanawa, but could not by reason of the very heavy Rain and the extream high waters. On finding they were so determined, I got all the horses collected, and secured them, and on my Brother's return I immediately pursued them, but to no purpose; for after traveling after them all day, they would at dark bring me within about a mile of the place we set out from. On Thursday evening about sunset I Belled three of my horses, and Turned them in their way. The took possession of them immediately, and on finding they ware gone, we ran in the cannoes to the mouth of Coal River, being the way we ware certain they would go, and in about two hours after the came, when in crossing the river they all three fell a pray. We retook our Horses and got all their Guns and other arms. The Evening of the same day, which was the 25th of April, eight of them took two men prisoners, about twenty miles above us, and eight others fired at two other men, about ten miles above us, the same day, who made their escape without Receiving any other damage than one losing his Gun and having his Horse wounded. Both these last mentioned Companies escaped without being pursued. The handful of men we had ware so exceedingly Fateagued that it was not possible for us to overtake them. We built a very strong Fort, and finding it impossible to keep the place with the few men that ware in Service, I thought it expedient to order the Remainder of the Ranging Company into Service. I have had the greatest difficulty Immaginable to procure provision and ammunition for said Troops, altho' I had the fullest assurance that on application I should be put in possession of money to defray such necessary expenses. Therefore, when your Excellency takes a view of the situation of affairs in that country, and the absolute necessity of continuing s'd Troops, I cannot hesitate to pronounce that you will put me in possession of money to pay off the Ingagements I have already made, and also to procure such supplies as may be necessary. Otherwise the company must be Disbanded, and me exposed to the sutes of those that have hitherto given supplies.

1788. June 9th

I have the Honor to be Your Excellencie's
most ob't H'ble Serv't.

WM. ROSE

June 10th

Reports to the Executive the number of prisoners confined to be tried, &c., nineteen in all. Six of these for murder, six for horse-stealing, one for Rape, one for passing counterfeit Dolls., and the others for Burglary and Felony.

Public Jail Richmond

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1788. JOS. MARTIN TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

June 11th Abingdon

A few days after writing to his Excellency, in April last, he had set out to the Cherokee nation, whom he found to be in great confusion; many gone off and others preparing to move. But he prevailed upon them to stay and plant their corn. After a consultation of ten days they agreed to remain, and he stayed with them until they had finished. One morning, soon after daybreak, a party of whites, without provocation, attacked a town about twenty miles from Chota, killed an old woman, wounded two children and plundered the town. When the news of this reached Chota, and it being supposed the population of the town had been all killed, he and Joseph Sevier, son of the late Governor of Franklin, were put under guard for three days. The Hanging man told him plainly that he suspected him (Martin) of "having been gentleing them for some time," that the white might take advantage of them and kill them all. After Some days, upon application of the whites, who expressed regret for what had occurred, the matter was peaceably accommodated. The Indians, unwilling to leave their towns, since their crops were all planted, were ready to accept any terms; but he told them he would not be responsible for the whites again, and that he only delivered the message of the whites, that if the late outrage were overlooked they would become good neighbors to the Indians. The day after this agreement was signed he left the Nation, and the day following the whites fired on some Indians in the same Town. As soon as he heard this, he at once returned to the Towns, took off his negroes and other property, and made his escape; and Mr. Harlin, who came off the next day, told him all the families left the Towns within three hours after his departure, and that the white flag which had for three years been flying at Chota had been taken down.

The Cumberland people are about to make a separate peace for themselves, as appears from enclosed letters from Mr. McGilveray. The latter had communicated with him the preceding fall, with the enquiry as to whether he was Indian Superintendant, and if so, desiring to communicate to him matters of importance. In reply to this, he had informed McGilveray that he had been discharged from his Agency, but from no fault, and that he was then only a private citizen.

The Cherokees from muskingum report to him that the Western Tribes will refuse to treat with the whites, but will gather all the force they can and endeavor to cut off that party. He apprehends a general war, which might have been evaded if Congress or any of the States had appointed an agent to have attended that business, &c.

(Letters Enclosed.)

LITTLE TELLISSEE, UPER CREEK NATION.

Gentlemen:

Mr. Hackett arriv'd here a few Days ago and Delivered me your letter, to gether with one from Colo. Hawkins. Agreeably to your

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request, I will be Explicit and Candid in my answer to yours, and will not Deny that my Nation had waged war against your Country for several years past, but that we had no motives of revenge, nor did it proceed from any Sense of Injurys sustained from your people, but being warmly attached to the British, and being under their Influence, our operations were directed by them against you in common with other Americans. After the General peace had Taken place, you sent us a Talk proposing terms of peace by Sam. Martin, which I then Excepted, and promised to advise my people to agree to, and which should have been firmly concluded on in the ensuing Summer and fall; and Judging that your people were Sincere in their professions, I was much surprised to find that while this affair was pondering, your people, in attacking the French Traders at the Muscle Sholes, Killed Six of our people, who were there Trafficking for Silver wares. These men belong to different Towns, and had Connections of the first consequence in this nation. Such and unprovoked outrage caused a most vehement Clammer, and gave Rise to the Expedition against Cumberland, that soon after took place, but as that has been since amply Retaliated, I now once again will use my best endeavours to bring a bout a peace between us; and Indeed before I had Receiv'd your Dispatches I had given out Strict Orders that on return of all hunting parties none should go out on any pretence untill after the first General Meeting, which I expect to hold in May next, when all my Influence and Authority shall be exerted in the manner you wish. I shall take leave of this Subject, Referring you to Mr. Hackett, to whom I have fully explained my Sentements. I have seen the Resolves of Congress, Respecting Indian affairs, as Early as the begining of January last, besides being notified of the Same from Gen'l pickins; but I have as yet heard nothing of a Superintendant, a Georgian Commissioner, Relative to the business of their commission. I had receiv'd his Excel., Governor Caswell's, letter and Duplicate only a short time before the unlucky affair of Cherokee River, so that I Differed writing an answer until I could be satisfyed in my own mind that he might Depend on what I should say to him, as I abhor every Species of Duplicity. I wish not to deceive, and if I was not Decided upon Setling, Turminating the war, I would not write now. I have hitherto only seen my friend, Colo. Hawkins, upon paper, and I highly honour and Esteem him; when only in this kind of acquaintance—the Ex'elent Character every one gives him—makes him a valuable advocate for your cause. Chance may put us in Each other's view one Day or other, and I shall Rejoice at having the opportunity of Saluting him friend. I have endeavoured to make everything as agreeable as my Situation permits, to Messrs. Hackett & Ewing.

1788. June 11th

I remain, Gentlemen, with much regard,
Your most obed't Servant.
ALEXANDER McGILVERAY.

Col. Anthony Bledsoe, James Robertson, Nashville, Cumberland.

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1788. LITTLE TALLISSEE, 14th April, 1788.

Sir:

June 11th I have been favoured with your letter by Mr. Hackett. The afflicting manner in which you relate the Tragic'l End of persons Dear to you Give me considerable concern. In answer to you, I again repeat that I will Exert all my Influence to put a Stop to further Excursions of my people, and which you complain have been productive of calamity and Distress to your country. But, Sir, you have in certain lead too large a Shear of them to my people, as I have Explained to Mr. Hackett. The Expedition you alude to was no concern of ours, and would have been intirely Disregarded by us, but in the Execution of it Some of our people were there, who went as well from motives of curiosity as to Traffick for Silver wares, and Six of whom were Rashly Kil'd by your men. This, happening at a time when I was Trying to accommodate matters for you, made the cincerity of your people's professions Suspected; but a compleat satisfaction having been taken, we now cover over all that is past, and we will begin again on new ground. The very good character which I have ever heard of you makes me sure that you will take the best measures to effect the wishes of both parties. Having fully Explained myself to Mr. Hackett, refer you to him, and Remain, with a Sincere desire to serve you,

Your most obed. Serv't,

ALEXANDER McGILVERAY.

Colonel James Robertson.

LITTLE TALLASSIE, UPPER CREEKS, 15th April, 1788.

Sir:

I am favor'd with your letter and its inclosure of October last. It had been much abused, having run the gauntlet thro' many hands, and reached me half burned and open.

I now enclose you the letter from Gov. Randolph, with observing that it has been a misfortune with all Inhabitants of an Indian Frontier that they have not known how to properly estimate men of ability who have ably served in the Indian nations, and which by so absurdly acting has been productive of many serious consequences to them.

In answer to the other part of your letter, I wou'd advise that before you determined to move that you first come this way and look'd about you, and if I can serve you I will chearfully do it.

Having a considerable number of letters to answer to Cumberland by this opportunity, prevents my saying more this time. I am now determined in earnest to endeavor to an accommodation with these people, which should have been accomplished on their first application for Peace; but last fall, in their driving off the french Traders on the Muscle Shoals, some of our Indians were there trading for Silver ware, and six of whom were rashly Killed, among some others there. This provoked my people

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to raise an expedition against Cumberland last fall to retalliate the Injury, which being accomplished, I am resolved to agree to peace with them on the first public meeting, Which I expect to hold next month. The Georgians, finding they can do no better, are talking about treating likewise, which if they do, and agree to an equal peace, I shall then bury the red hatchet, and if not, I shall march an expedition against them when I Judge fit. 1788. June 11th

I remain, with regard and Esteem,
Sir, Your most obed't Servant,

ALEX. McGILLIVRAY.

Col. Jos. Martin.

PLEASANT GROVE, May 7th, 1788.

D'r General:

I should have Rote you before now, but on my Return home found distressing times in the country. A number of persons have bin killed since. Among those unfortunate persons ware my third son. I know not what to say to you on that subject, knowing you to be willing to give all the assistance in your power; but Doubtless the confutions that ware among yourselves would prevent doing much for us. We sent Captains Hagget and Ewing to the Creeks who have brought very faverable accounts, and we do not doubt but a lasting peic will be shortly concluded between us and that nation. The Cherokees we shall flog if they do not behave well. I doubt, from what Colo. McGilivrey declared to them, georgia must suffer without the Imedate interference of Congress, as he says he will not wate longer this month for Commisioners from Congress; that he will send down five thousand indants on them; that if Congress will finally fix on a boundrey, owns the land, and says he does not mind giveing them some, but he will do nothing with Georgia. He has declared his sentiments much frear to Mr. Hagget than by letter, and which I have enclosed to you. I hope to be Honerd with your letter shortly, and acount of thimes. Your land on stone River are safe. I expect Capt. Martin has inform'd you of the other. He is grately in asteam in this Country, and has the command of the trupes at this time. As you are a frend to this country, I hope you will publish the account of piece. You may assure all desirous to come we shall have the Road opened, and a gard at the time advertised. Excuse hast.

I am your sunsear frend
and very Humble Servant,

JAS. ROBERTSON.

General Martin.

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1788. THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,

June 12th DR. for supplies Furnished the Ranging Company in Greenbrier County:

Greenbrier county	To 2,000 lb. weight of Bacon purchased of Alexander Lewis for there use at 7d½ p'r lb.....	£62. 10. 0.
	To 200 lb. weight of Gun powder for their use, and the frontier militia at 2s. 6d. p'r lb.....	25. 0. 0.
	To 100 Bushels Indian Corn at 3s. p'r Bushel.....	15. 0. 0.
	To 250 lb. weight of flour, at 12s. 6d p'r C. weight.....	1. 11. 3.
	To 10 pack-horses for ten days going to and Returning from the Kanawa, being Two hundred miles, @ 1s. 6d. per day.....	7. 10. 0.
		£111. 11. 3.

June 16th JOHN LOGAN, OF LINCOLN; JOHN FOWLER, J'N'R, OF FAYETTE; JOHN STEELE, OF NELSON; HENRY LEE, OF BOURBON; AND ROB'T BRECKINRIDGE, OF JEFFERSON, TO GOV'R RANDOLPH, OF VIRG'A,

Richmond Informing him that the provision made by the Executive for the defence of the District of Kentucky is not adequate to the purpose, as no person will undertake to furnish the supplies for the Scoutts so low as six pence p'e ration. The County Lieutenants who were appointed by the Board of Officers in the District to make the contracts, had advertised for some time, and could not get any person to undertake at so low a price, the immigration to that Country having been so great that provisions had become scare. They suggest that if the contractors are limited to some price p'r ration, the purpose may be answered, &c.

June 18th GEO. CLENDENIN TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Richmond I am informed that the Executive have committed the accounts I laid before them to the Auditor of Public Accounts, and that he has reported that my Proceedings has not been conformable to the Orders of Your Excellency and the Honorable members of Council. However this may appear to you, I assure you that I have taken every possible means to procure supplies on the best terms I possibly could. When I went up last spring I attempted to Ingage supples conditionally, but could not, for those who had anything to spare would either dispose of it certainly, or Else be at liberty to dispose of it to others. I also seen that it was Im-

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possible to procure one Ration at the price that I was Restricted to. Therefore I failed to make any purchases untill I was compelled, by Reason that the County was actually Invaded. The Rations I then was obliged to purchase, or disband the men, and suffer the Savages to carry on their Hostilities at will and escape with impunity. I should have most certainly consulted your Excellency and the Honorable members of Council Respecting the necessity of making a further allowance to be given for Rations, But the great and pressing urgency of the occasion, and distance from the seat of Government, put it entirely out of my power until I came down, which has saved the expence of an Express, which, if added to the price of the Rations, will serve to lessen them. In the settled part of the County of Greenbrier it was not possible to get one bushel of corn for less than three shillings, if the cash was even paid down, and flower could not be procured at any price whatever. The Corn I purchased on the Kanawa I got for the same price that I could have purchased it in the Inhabitants, and, as I mentioned to you on a former occasion, saved the expence of carrying it upwards of one hundred miles, besides the Risque of having it injured By high waters or other accidents which it might be subjected to. There is not a mill within one hundred miles of the place the Rangers are, therefore they have to pound their meal, which has, in some measure, made it more difficult to apportion the Rations. But if your Excellency and the Honorable members of Council conceive it necessary that I should state the account in Rations actually furnished, I feel myself cheerfully disposed to do it, and if no further allowance can be made, I must only make up the deficiency. 1788. June 18th

Your Excellency will Readily Discover that the provisions that I have purchased is about to be Exhausted, therefore I trust I shall be informed How they are to be supported in future, for sorry am I to inform You that the public Credit is at so low an Ebb as to put it entirely out of my power to purchase one farthing's worth on that Score, and have been compelled to give my Own Bonds, payable on Demand, for the purchases I have already made. I have fail'd to present any other account at present than what I am Bound for Immediately, as I have Informed the Rangers and Scouts that they are not to be paid till October next.

I have the Honor to be,
With great Respect and Esteem,
Your Excellencie's Ob't H'ble Serv't.

BRETT RANDOLPH, JACOB WILLIAMSON, BARTHOLOMEO STOVALL, AND WM. ELAM, June 19th

Fined four hundred pounds of Tobacco for not attending upon the summons of the Quarterly Court to serve as Jurymen. Powhatan county

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1788. ED. CARRINGTON TO GOV. RANDOLPH.

Sir:

June 19th New York. I have delayed writing to your Excellency this week, in hopes of being enabled to transmit the decision of Congress upon the application for an extension of the time allowed for exhibiting the accounts of the State against the United States; this may possibly be obtained to-morrow, but as that is not absolutely certain I waite no longer for it. The Board of Treasury are forming a report upon Mr. dunscomb's letter, taken in conjunction with one they have received from Mr. Winder, and it is their intention so to form the report as that it may serve to remove or reconcile the difficulties existing between the two commissioners, and I have some reason to beleive they will also recommend a general extension of the time allowed by the ord'nance for a few months. Should this recommendation come from the Board, it is probable Congress will agree to it; but I must still repeat my former observation, that it will be best for Mr. dunscomb to proceed to render the Accounts in whatever arrangement they may be, throwing upon the other Commissioner the business of new statements, if such shall be necessary. The Delegation will urge the decision of Congress upon this application, and upon its being obtained no time will be lost in transmitting it, together with the report of the Treasury Board.

I have the Honor to be,
With great respect,
Your Excellencie's most ob't Serv't.

June 19th COLO. BENJ. WILSON TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Harrison county. Urging the necessity of considering eight men, as four Scouts, two generally being necessary to act together in this capacity. To discharge one-half of those now out would seriously alarm the Inhabitants of the County on the frontier, inasmuch as their peace and safety depend upon the number and care of the Scouts. There is no prospect of peace with the Indians, and as the frontiers of Harrison are so extensive, he prays the whole Eight may be retained. For further information upon the necessity of so doing, he refers the Governor to Col. Evans, of Monongalia, Major John Wilson, of Randolph Co., and Colo. Geo. Jackson, of Harrison, which Gentlemen is now in Richmond.

June 21st MEMORIAL OF WM. MCCLEERY AND JOHN EVANS,

In behalf of the people of Monongalia County, representing that in the arrangement for western defences only four spies was allotted to Monongalia, which leaves a considerable part of the county exposed to the en-

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emy; that there are three principal inlets by which the Indians generally come, requiring two men at each. Should six not be employed the people is liable to be surprised and either murdered or taken captive, &c. 1788. June 21st

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*Burwell Bassett, William H. Macon, William Armstead, Lyddal L. Wilkinson, Joseph Foster, Samuel Mark, Robert Bowes, George B. Poindexter and John Clopton, June 21st

Gentlemen, commissioned by the Governor in Council, under authority of An Act for the relief of persons who have been or may be injured by the destruction of the records of County Courts, to assemble and adjourn, &c., from time to time at such place within the County of New Kent to hear and examine and to take depositions, &c., touching the matters and things expressed in the second section of the above recited act, &c. Richmond

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Andrew Dunscomb to Gov. Randolph. June 22d

Sir:

Friday, the 20th Inst., being the last day allowed the State to pressent her claims against the United States, I delivered to their Comm'r all those that I could lay my hands upon, accompa'yed with such statements as would show the nature of the claims. Those for Bounties, Pay, and Depreciation of Pay, and advances to militia, were not so accurately stated as I flatter myself they will be after my second revision. The statement of Specifics may be pretty confidently depended on, which I accompa'yed with a General Return of Purchases, and another of delivery. Richmond

Those of the five Departments, from their deranged situation, loss, insufficient and unintelligable vouchers, have more particularly defeated my desires. In order to secure the State as much as was in my power, I delivered accounts in gross with all the vouchers I could pick up, tyed in Bags, label'd "not arranged." More particular ones are now in hand, and when done will be exchanged for those presented.

I have also delivered to the Comm'r Extracts taken from the Receipt Books of the Treasury, from April, 1775, to April 10th, 1788, accompa'yed with a Descriptive list of those Books, signed by the Treasurer, and annexed the oaths of my clerks as to the Extracts taken therefrom.

It having remained an undetermined question how I should secure effectually a charge for Rations, &c., furnished militia by the State contractors, I have lodged all the vouchers of those characters in Bags, to be hereafter examined and stated.

I have the Honor to be, with respect and regard,

Your most obt. Serv't.

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*This, doubtless, refers to the burning of the Courthouse and Jail in Aug., 1787, by John Price Posey and others.

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1788. H. KNOX TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

June 23d War Office — Enclosing the appointment of Col. Joseph Martin as Indian Agent among the Cherokee nation, with a salary of five hundred dollars a year, to begin on the 20th June, 1788, being the date of his appointment by vote of Congress.

June 24th THOS. CARTER, HENRY DICKENSON, AND ANDREW COWEN TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Richmond — Laying before the Executive Council an account of Indian depredations upon the frontiers of the counties they represent. They have reliable information that the savages have lately killed sixteen persons on French Broad, and that news had reach. them of eighty Indians being on their way against the settlements of Holston and Clinch. That four men had been killed in their county, and the Cherokees had joined the Creeks, which combination no force the people could raise could resist. Three men had been killed and sculped on the Black mountain, and David Campbell and his family, Hugh Berry and his family, particular acquaintances of thers, had also been killed, and the station on French Broad, with many horses from Powel's Valley, had been captured. Although some of these depredations were not in their immediate neighborhood, nor even in this State, yet, from the enterprising character of these savages, their operations were never confined to localities or even States. They, therefore, considering their part of the country in great danger, and especially as Russell Co. is the barrier to Washington and Montgomery, beg that Scouts and a force of Rangers be authorized to go out from these two Counties to act in concert with the few who can be raised in Russell. This latter county has a frontier of one hundred and fifty miles in advance of Washington and Montgomery, and on account of the scattered condition of the Inhabitants they are obliged to live in forts, totally to the neglect of their crops, &c. By enclosed letters they hear that Col. Joseph Martin is a prisoner with the Cherokees and may not get out of their hands in safety. That men who had gone to the black mountain to dig ginsangue had found a camp whom one of the Elimes and three of the Breedings, of New Garding, and Neale Roberts, had been about the same employment, several of whom lay killed and sculpt. The Cherokees evidently bent on war, and unless means are taken at once to protect that country, great suffering and disaster must follow very soon.

June 24th RESOLUTION PASSED

In Congress — In accordance with the recommendations of Andrew Dunscomb's letter, allowing three months' additional time to all the States in settling their accounts with the United States, under the ordinance of May 7th, 1787;

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also allowing the transmission of additional vouchers and other testimony to the commissioners of army accounts and to the accountant of the Treasury, &c. 1788. June 24th

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EDMUND WINSTON, ESQ'R., June 28th

Elected by joint ballot a Judge of the General Court, to fill a vacancy occasioned by Gabriel Jones, Esquire, having declined that appointment, &c. General Assembly

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ANDREW MOORE AND ROBERT GOODE, ESQUIRES, June 28th

Chosen by joint ballot members of the Privy Council, in place of Bolling Starke, Esq'r., deceased, and Joseph Eggleston, Esquire, resigned, &c. General Assembly

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HENRY LEE, DELEGATE FROM BOURBON CO., KENTUCKY, TO GOV. RANDOLPH. June 30th

Informing him that a contractor cannot be found to furnish Rations to the Rangers at the prices fixed by the Executive. The location of this County being a frontier to the Kentucky District, occasions the demand for provisions to be greater, because all Emigrants to this Country pass through this County. The price of corn there now is two shillings six pence p'r bushel; Bacon, eight pence; and Beef, two pence p'r pound, &c. Richmond

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SUNDRY REGISTERS OF VESSELS

Built in Virginia, at Hampton, Gloucester, Alexandria, varying from thirty to sixty tons burthen. One assigned ship, built in Massachusetts, 150 tons burthen, register bears autograph of John Hancock, and impression of State and naval office seals.

CHAS. THOMSON TO THE GOVEROR OF VIRGINIA. July 3d

Sir:

In obedience to the Orders of the United States in Congress Assembled, I have the honor to transmit to Your Excellency herewith enclosed the proceedings of Congress relative to the Independency of the district of Kentucky, which you will be pleased to communicate to your Legislature, that agreeably to the recommodation contained in the last Act of Congress they may so alter their Acts relative to Kentucky as to render them conformable to the provisions made in the new constitution. Office of Secretary of Congress

With the greatest respect I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant.

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1788. ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO THE GOVERNOR,

July 5th Commissioner's office — Reporting the number of clerks engaged in his Office. Two have just been discharged. The others are as follows: "Two in posting the accounts to be passed upon; one taking extracts from the Journals of the Executive, Letters, &c., received from Colo. Meriwether, being communications with the Adjutant-General, Commissioners of the War Office and continental Officers; One stating (particularly) supplies furnished under the accounts extracted from the Ledgers of the State Clothiers and Agents, presented (to) the district Commissioner in general accounts, in order to secure the Amount; one to examine, select, arrange and state the claims delivered in gross: this description includes a bagfull of Contractors' vouchers for Issue of Provisions and a number of vouchers for payments and allowances previous to 1781, and are of those said to be lost, and will require considerable time to make intelligable or useful; one copying residue of Treasury receipts, at the completion of which he will be discharged," &c.

July 7th COLO. T. MERIWETHER REPORTS TO THE GOVERNOR

Point of Fork — The condition of the Point of Fork. He has examined the Quarterly Returns and Acc'ts of the Superintendant up to the 30th Ult., and finds them fair and just.

It appears by the Pay-Roll that £129. 18. is due to the Superintendant and Artificers; the sum of £72. 12. due to the Guard. The Superintendant has in hand £37. 14. 1. from sales of old powder, and has not yet been able to purchase any flints. He encloses report of the Superintendant relative to the Ordnance, a request from that Officer to be allowed to employ some additional carpenters, and an application from Samuel Colter for payment of £52 due for plank furnished for the Arsenal now erecting. He requests that measures be taken to recover the two negroes that absconded in December; still absent, &c.

The list of Ordnance belonging to the State, and valued by him as follows, viz: by E. Langham, S. P. of Fork:

At Norfolk and Fort Point

4 24–Pounders, 13 18 " 16 6 " 6 Caronades,	all good Iron Pieces	Supposed value.....	£ 950. 0. 0.

At Richmond

3 4–pounders, 4 18–pounders,	good Iron peices, valued at.....	£ 245. 0. 0.	

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On the Road, from Richm'd to Hanover C't House, . 1788.

1 18–pounder, 1 12–pounder,	} good Iron peices, valued at.....	£ 99. 0. 0.	July 7th

Near McCall's Quarter

1 18–pounder, Good Iron, valued at.....	56. 5. 0.	

At Westham

3 18–pounders, Good Iron peices, valued at.....	156. 0. 0.	

Taylor's Ferry, on Pomunkee,

5 18–pounders, good brass, valued at.....	635. 10. 6d.	
3 18–pounders, good Iron, " "	168. 10. 0.	

At Hanover C't House

2 18–pounders, valued at.....	281. 0. 0.	
Total, 56 peices cannon, and 6 caronades, valued at...	£2,600. 5. 6.	

Damaged Peices at Richmond, below the Bridge.

1 9–pounder, Iron, valued at.....	£ 3. 12. 0.	

In Scott's Mill-dam, Nansemond Co.

1 18–pounder, supposed to be bad, valued at.....	6. 0. 0.	
	9. 12. 0.	

The whole of the above is being damaged by being neglected.
In addition to the above there were in April the following, viz:

At Hood's, on James River.

	£. s. d.
3 long 18–pounders, w't 13,533 pounds, @ £25 p'r ton....	168. 15. 0.
4 4–pounders and 3 3–pounders, valued at.....	101. 5. 0.
1 18–pounder, covered with sand, said to be very good,	56. 5. 0.

At Diascon Bridge

2 Blunderbusses, valued at.....	2. 0. 0.

At the Ship-yard

1 18–pounder, valued at.....	45. 0. 0.
1 1 piece below high water, said to be a 12-p'd'r.....	25. 0. 0.
A number of cannon ball, worth.....	6. 0. 0.

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1788.			
		At W^msburg	
July 7th	1	6-pounder, wanting repair, worth	10. 0. 0.
		Near ye Mouth of College Creek	
	2	12-pounders, worth	40. 0. 0.
		East'n Shore, N. Hampton C't House.	
	1	4-p'd'r, 1 2-pounder, valued at	16. 6. 0.
		At Frank Town, N. H. County,	
	1	4-pounder, valued at	10. 15. 0.
		At Folly Land'g, Accomack Co.	
	1	18-pounder, valued at	33. 10. 0.
		At Colo. Cropper's, Accomack,	
	1	D. F. long 4-p'd'r, Brass, valued at	60. 10. 0.
	1	3-p'd'r, Iron, 1 12-p'd'r, valued at	30. 0. 0.
	1	9-inch Howitt., Iron	6. 0. 0.
		At Assawaman, Accomack,	
	2	12-p'd'r, valued at	50. 0. 0.
	1	3-p'd'r, mounted, carriage damaged	8. 0. 0.
		At Gingotig, Accomack,	
	1	18-p'd'r, valued at	50. 0. 0.
		At Colo. Paramore's, Accomack,	
	1	4-p'd'r, mounted, carriage damaged	12. 0. 0.
		At Horn Town, Accomack.	
	1	3-p'd'r, valued at	6. 0. 0.
		At Cumberland Town, N. Kent Co.,	
	4	6-pounders, valued at	87. 10. 0.
		At New Castle	
	1	D. F. 12-p'd'r, weighing 4,463 p'ds, valued at	67. 8. 0.
			£ 892. 4. 0.

The Pieces of Cannon supposed to be worth £892. 4. 0. would not, at the highest prices we expect to sell them for, which is £5 per Ton, bring more than £200. 0. 0. Suppose they cost £200 to place them in good order, well Tared, Sealed and painted and under cover £200. 0. 0., valued then at £400. 0. 0? Loss by selling the old cannon, and purchasing the same quantity of new ones, will be £492. 4. 0.

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BENJ. BUCKTROUT 1788.

Applies to the Executive for his pay as Purveyor to Hospitals in the late war. He cannot collect the warrant he holds from the Treasury, and begs to be allowed annual payment of interest thereon, &c. July 9th Williamsburg

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ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOV. RANDOLPH, July 11th

Assuring him of his determination not to incur unnecessary expence in guarding that County. A war is going on in a neighboring State (Georgia) against the Cherokees, with varied successes; and as North Carolina is expected to undertake a campaign against the same tribe, it is not probable the Savages will attempt anything against Virginia. A company of militia will, however, be kept in readiness for an emergency. Washington county

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DAVID HENLY TO GOV. RANDOLPH, July 14th

Requesting that his account as Third Commissioner for settling the claims of Virginia on account of the Western Territory ceded by that State to the United States may be settled. It amounts to sixteen hundred and eighty-nine dollars, being his services for five hundred and sixty-three days @ $3.00 p'r day. New York

---

J. AMBLER, TREASURER, July 14th

Makes report of the amount of Tobacco in the Treasury on the 14th July, 1788, viz: 1,337 hhds. crop, weighing 1,443,641 pounds, and valued at..... £19,865. 3. 3.
Transfer Tobacco (183,503 pounds), worth..... 2,220. 17. 4.

Total..... £2,386. 0. 7. Treasury office

J. AMBLER July 21st

Informs the Governor in Council that there is no money in the Treasury appropriated to the support of the Post at the Point of Fork, and that he is not at liberty to take from other appropriations for the purpose without the direction of the Executive. Treasury office

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1788. PRAYER OF *ARCHIBALD CARROL,

July 23d Richmond prison — Condemned to suffer death for murder, for a respite of a few days, in order to prepare for that fearful change, &c.

July 24th CAPT. RICH'D TAYLOR TO GOV'R RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Portsmouth — I am sorry to inform you of the misfortune which happen'd the Schooner Patriot last Evening. The weather for 2 or three Days threatened a gale of wind. At 8 last night the wind began to blow fresh from N. E. and continued increasing; at one in the morning it Blowing a mere gale, which Caused great part of the Vessels in the Harber to drift, and unfortunately two schooners got drove a thwart our Horse (hawser) and got so tangled with our Boltsprit I found it imposable to extricate ourselves from them without cutting our cables just before receiving another Vessel on us, which must have sunk us. We Carried away our Boltsprit and Started the Hooding forward, besides receiving some damage on our counter before we reached the Portsmouth Shore. The water being very high, we drove up about 10 feet above high water mark. I have agreed with a Carpenter to get us of for 12£, and suppose it will cost as much more to repair the other damages. You may rely, Sir, the greatest exertion was made to preserve the vessel. About thirty large and small vessels are in our situation, and some much worse. I hope to have every thing repaired in 10 days.

I have the Honour to be, Sir, y'r most obed't and most Humbl. Serv't.

July 25th WM. LAMBERT TO HON'BLE JAMES WOOD, ESQ'R.,

Richmond — Requesting his aid in getting an additional allowance as clerk to Mr. Dunscomb, engaged in arranging the accounts of the State of Va. with the United States; concludes: "I did not expect, when I engaged in December last, to have continued 'till now, but as it seems to be the wish of Mr. Dunscomb that I should assist to compleat the business, I shall stay for that purpose, provided I may be indulged in a request which I conceive to be so reasonable. Permit me, Sir, to address you as one of the Honorable Body appointed to superintend the Continental Account, and that you will be pleased to communicate the above to his Excellency and Council in such a manner as you may think proper," &c.

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*This man had commanded a British Frigate, the "Valient." His case seems to have excited considerable interest in Norfolk and Portsmouth, in as much as a petition for his execution was numerously signed by people of those towns, &c.

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JOHN S. MOORE, SEARCHER FOR THIS PORT, TO THE GOVERNOR, 1788.

In regard to the duties of his Office. Many of the Country craft refuse to call and register, thereby opening a door for much smuggling. Unless he can compel them to stop and show their permits, &c., his business will be totally frustrated. He needs a boat, inasmuch as vessels frequently escape after being forfeated. July 25th West Point

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WM. MCCLEERY TO GOV. RANDOLPH, July 27th

Giving him intelligence of the discovery of Indians crossing the Ohio about eight miles below Wheeling Fort, by the Scouts, who having communicated it to the Rangers of Ohio county their movements had been closely watched. He apprehends great trouble from the Savages, inasmuch as they are very hostile, and having been harrassed by them for now more than twelve years, the people can scarcely bare up against them, &c. Morgan Town

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*ARCH'R CARROL TO GOV. RANDOLPH. July 28th

The Rev. Mr. Blagrove having assured him that his Excellency had no objection thereto, he takes the liberty of presenting to the Executive some old Signal Books, &c.

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†SIR JOHN PEYTON TO GOV. RANDOLPH, July 29th

enclosing the petition of one Mrs. Fox, &c. He had acted as High Sheriff during the years 1782 and 1783. His two deputies, Messrs. Duval and Royston, having failed to collect and account for the taxes of these two years, he had been sued and a Judgment gotten against his Estate. Messrs. Royston and Duval having been proceeded against, and having little or nothing, their surety, Mr. Fox, became responsible. The latter had died, and the estate of his Widow and Orphans is now about to be sacrificed. Sir John therefore intercedes for Mrs. Fox, and begs that the judgments suspended over her estate and over himself may not be executed as threatened, whereby their ruin and Gloucester county

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*Rev. Mr. Blagrove was officiating clergyman at the Public Prison, and this man is the same person heretofore mentioned, and appears to be still under sentence of death. He had, while in command of a British frigate, carried to the French copies of the Fleet signals of the English Squadron, &c.

†This gentleman resided at the place since known as Iseham, now in Mathews Co., near Green Plains, on North River, the latter being the seat of the late Wm. H. Roy, Esq., and opposite to that of Warner Taliaferro, Esq., on the south side of the river.

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1788. July 29th abject poverty must follow. He shows why it has been impossible to collect the public dues. The poverty of the people is extreme. They have found it necessary to agree among themselves not to purchase the effects of each other when seized by the officers of the Law, hence no sales can be made to satisfy executions; and even could this be done the prices of property are so low that utter ruin must overtake those forced into the market. To add to this state of things, on the 23d and 24th of this month (July) a dreadful storm and highest tide ever known occurred, which has laid wast all the lower country, destroying the crops and sweeping away live stock of every kind. Scarce a plantation which has not suffered by the blowing down of houses. Continues: "The distress of the people is beyond all conception. Hundreds of families in this county are deprived of everything for another year's subsistence. The tide, which was six feet deep in some of their houses, has swept all before it and drowned several of the Inhabitants. Corn, flax, cotton, and vegetables of every kind died wherever the tide went, if it was not swept away, so that the people are deprived of every necessary of life, even their stock of old corn, horses, and cattle, and the greater part of the sheep, hogs, and fowls. A person, one of the suferers, is now present. His acc't of the damage exceeds anything I ever heard of in this part of the world. I am one among them, but in a small degree to hundreds of others. If something is not done for their relief God knows what will be the consequence. I fear their distress will not end here, for those Lands which have been overflowed are so impregnated with salt that I doubt whether they will produce anything for some years to come. The loss of the fencing alone, had there been no other damage, would have laid the people under great difficulties; indeed, in many places, it is almost irreparable. The losses cannot be enumerated. The sight of the plantations are shocking spectacles, and stench of the corn, grass, and other vegetables is most disagreeable, &c.

July 30th THE PETITION OF THOMAS HUGHART, SHERIFF OF AUGUSTA COUNTY,

Praying for relief against Executions and for remission of fines on account of default in making return of the Taxes of 1785 and 1786. He had not been able, on account of the poverty and scattered condition of the population, to make collections. He farther begs leave to observe, that as the people of Augusta usully come to market but once in ye year, viz., in ye fall, he came too late into office to avail himself of the preceding market, &c.

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THOS. DEBNAM AND GEO. NUTALL, INSPECTORS AT DEACON'S NECK WAREHOUSE, TO GOV. RANDOLPH, 1788.

Informing him that the Tobacco at s'd warehouse had received considerable damage from the late Gust and High Tide. About seventy-two hogsheads were injured, the water having submerged them about one-half their height. They ask for directions as to whether they shall hire hands to pick and reassort it over, or sell it at once on public account. The latter they think the better plan. July 31st Gloucester county

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SUNDRY REGISTERS OF VESSELS

Built in Virginia, in New Kent and Nansemond counties, averaging sixty tons burthen each, &c.

JAMES INNES MAKES A STATEMENT TO THE EXECUTIVE August 1st

In regard to the appointment of Beverly Dickson as Clothier during the late war, while he (Innes) was in 1779 a member of the Board of War. At that time the State Troops were arranged in a system similar to that adopted in the Continental Service, and approved by the Governor and Council. Under this arrangement a number of Officers were appointed, not authorized by Act of Assembly, but chosen by the Board of War, and their appointment sanctioned by the Governor after receiving the signature of the members of that Board. The pay and emolument of these Officers stood upon the same footing with similar ones in the Continental service. Under this proceeding a clothier for the land and marine troops of the State was necessary, and Mr. Beverly Dickson was appointed to that Office by the Board of War, with the consent of the Executive, about the middle of July, or first of August, 1779. Mr. Dickson entered upon the duties of his Office, and discharged them until about the month of June, 1780, when he resigned, without having received either pay or priviledges. The Records of the Board of War, wherein all the circumstances here refer'd to would be found more at large, were burnt in 1781 by Simcoe at the Foundery. Richmond

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IN OBEDIENCE TO EXECUTIVE ORDERS August 2d

T. Meriwether makes report that no steps have yet been taken for prosecuting delinquents under the Militia Laws, but that the Attorney-General intends to prepare and send out notices in the course of the present month by the Solicitor's Expresses.

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1788. JOHN DIXON, SHERIF TO THE EXECUTIVE,

August 4th Gloucester county — Praying to be releived from Executions against him for default of payment of the Taxes of 1784. His long-continued bad health, and absence at sea on this account, together with the failure of his deputy to make the collections, should, he hopes, excuse him for the present. The difficulty of his situation is now greater than ever, not only on account of the increased distresses of the country, but by reason of the late terrible disaster in which the country, particularly Gloucester, was laid waste. The Sea broke in from two to three feet higher than ever was known by the oldest men, and Houses, stocks and crops were swept away by its violence. The damage the county of Glo'ster alone has suffered is supposed by the best judges to amount to Twenty thousand pounds. He therefore begs that the Solicitor may be instructed to suspend action against him until he can have time to answer all just demands, &c.

August 4th Norfolk, Virginia — WM. GRAVES TO THE GOVERNOR,

Sending in his quarterly Return, and requesting to be furnished a new Boat for the public use, as the late gaile of wind we had in this place had deprived him of the one he had. It will not cost more than twelve pounds.

August 6th Onancock — WM. GIBB, NAVAL OFFICER, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

Certain Anti-fœderates of this County, who are men of considerable influence, having objected to that part of the Law which obliges Vessels trading from one State to the other to enter or pay duties, strenuously insisting that such laws, as far as they interfered with coasting vessels, were totally abrogated or superseded by the new Constitution, and threatening the Officers who should attempt to act in consequence or pursuance of them. Therefore in this Dilemma I immediately applied to George Corbin, Esq., Attorney for the State, a copy of whose opinion thereupon I enclose to your Excellency. Should Colo. Corbin be mistaken (as I am apprehensive he is), I conceived it my duty to be guided by his opinion until I hear from your Excellency, as a contrary proceedure could not now be enforced by a construction of the law, so very unpopular, in direct opposition to so considerable an Oracle.

I have the honour to be
Your Excellency's most respectful
and most ob't hum'ble Serv't.

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(Opinion enclosed.) 1788.

Quere.—Does the new fœderal Constitution annul the laws obliging Vessels to Enter and clear, and consequently repeal the Duties or Imports on vessels on Goods from one State to another? August 6th

Answer.—I am of opinion it does, being now the Supreme Law of the Land.

GEORGE CORBIN.

COL. THOS. MERIWETHER TO MR. TIPLENG. August 6th

You will receive a packet of letters directed to Colo. Thomas Marshall and George Muter, with which you will proceed with the utmost expedition to Danville (Kentucky), and deliver to either of them. If they should be absent, you will enquire for Colo. Marshall's residence, and deliver the packet to him. You will take receipt for the packet, and return as soon as possible. You will take following places in your route: Washington Court House, Block-House, Powell's Station, Martin's Station, English Station, when you will enquire the direct road to Danville. Richmond

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J. AMBLER, TREASURER, TO ARCH. BLAIR, ESQ. August 9th

Enclosing "all the *Papers in the Treasury respecting the sale of the Gosport Lands, except a list of the Lots annexed to the names of the purchasers, whereby alone I am enabled to make conveyances on application," &c.

ANDREW RONALD TO GOV. RANDOLPH. August 13th

Sir:

The books and papers with which you lately honored me, contain such a variety of matter, depending upon such a multiplicity of facts, requiring the support of such different and extensive testimony, that it far exceeds my abilities to form any system of evidence which may be applicable to the minutiæ of the business without entirely renouncing all other engagements. I must, therefore, beg leave to return them, and after having devoted the best of two days to an examination of them, find myself only able to decide that if evidence, even in the second degree, shall be deemed absolutely requisite, the claim of Virginia will be but badly sustained; for altho' it is probable that testimony sufficient to authenticate almost every charge may be attainable, yet I fear it might take a period as long as the duration of the war to discover and arrange it. Richmond

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*Not found.

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1788. A vast number of the original documents, no doubt, may be traced in the
August 13th offices of the different County Courts, and it is reasonable to suppose that proofs of an inferior nature will be rejected, unless evidence be first given that no higher exist This suggests the necessity of a scrutiny upon this subject, and of Certificates from the different Clerks of the loss or destruction of the papers in their offices, and presents such a stumbling-block at the threshold as must effectually deter any one from advancing who can, with propriety, retreat.

I have the honor to subscribe myself,
Sir, your most obe'd't Ser'vt.

August 14th CHAS. THOMSON TO GOV. RANDOLPH, OF VA.,

Office of Secretary of Congress Enclosing an act passed by the United States in Congress assembled, the 12th of this month, calling upon the States of Pensylvania and Virginia to furnish of their militia, five hundred men for the former and one thousand for the latter, to act in conjunction with the federal troops and be directed by the Commander thereof, in defending the western frontiers from the attacks of the savages, &c., &c.

August 15th ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Richmond Enclosing to him an *aggregate of Specifics received by the Comm'rs of the Provision Law, and paid for by the State, and also the quantity delivered for Continental uses, subjoining the total required by Congress from the State of Virginia.

August 20th J. PARKER TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

Richmond Calling his attention to certain importations of sugars made by merchants of this State from Philadelphia and Baltimore, having the appearance of unrefined muscovado sugars, altho' according to the certificates of the naval officers they appear to have been refined in the United States. In order to prevent frauds he has generally required the duty to be paid on these sugars, but as the Law appears rather doubtful, at the request of those gentlemen he takes the liberty of communicating with his Excellency on the subject, and begs to refer to the following clause of an Act of Assembly in regard to Duties, &c.: "No duties shall be payable on any imported articles being the property of this Commonwealth, the United States, or any of them, nor on any articles imported directly by water in vessels

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*Not found.

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belonging wholly to citizens of the United States, which shall be proved to be of the growth or manufacture of the State from which they shall be imported, except rum and *unrefined sugar*, which articles shall be subject to the same duties as are, by law, imposed on the same articles imported from foreign countries," &c. 1788. August 20th

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LEIGHTON WOOD, J'N'R, SOLICITOR, August 21st

Makes complaint against the Inspectors of Tobacco at Bolling's Point warehouse, Dinwiddie, viz: Messrs. Hinton and Thweat. That they have failed to account for the additional Duty of six shillings per Hogshead, imposed by an act of the October Assembly, 1786, entitled "An Act to raise a supply of money for the United States in Congress assembled," from the first day of March, 1787, untill the thirty-first Day of December next following; also that they have failed to account for the Duties on Tobacco, being ten shillings per Hogshead from the month of October, 1786, to October, 1787, as required by the several Acts of the preceding May Assembly, 1783, &c., &c.; Also against the Inspectors, Messrs. Sturdivant & Marks, at Davis' warehouse, in Prince George County; against Messrs. Pegram & Goodwyn, Inspectors at Petersburg; against Archer & Goodwyn, Inspectors at Bolling Brook, in Dinwiddie Co.; and Vaughn & Blick, at Cedar Point, in Dinwiddie; and Birchett & Williams, at Blandford, in Prince George Co.; and against Watts & Fuqua, Inspectors at Boyd's, in Prince George, County, &c.

SAMUEL DAVIES TO GOV. RANDOLPH. August 22d

May it Please Your Excellency:

I addressed myself to your Excellency sometime past, and requested redress by being reinstated in proper order in the Com'ission of the Peace for the County of Dinwiddie, from which Office I conceived I have been illegally displaced, as I had not been accused of any misconduct, nor had any trial, if this had been the case. As I have long acted in the capacity of a magistrate I wish to reap in turn the benefits of the Sherif's Office, but of this I am likely to be deprived, unless your Excellency will take the matter up and see that Justice is done me. I am not anxious for Office, but for the reason above given, and that my being now out of Com'ission conveys implied censure, to which I wish not to submit. Petersburg, Virginia

I am your Excellency's

Mo. ob'd. Serv't.

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1788. JAMES GIBSON TO ALEX. BARNETT, OF RUSSELL CO.

D'r Sir:

August 22d Augusta I Receiv'd yours dated the 19th instant, demanding of me what rangers have been about. I answer, the have been very busy aranging, and when we heard the Alarm from the spies of a number of indians Coming into the inhabitants I Immediately raised what men I could get, and went and found the sign of about four or five indians in Powel's Mountain Bearing to Hamblin's fort, but the Earth was so hard and dry that we could not follow them, And then we retired home to get more men, as our number was but four, and to try if we could find the sign in some other place, but when we had got the men we could not get one load of powder a man, not having it in our power to send to Richmond for that powder that ought to have been heare so long ago, and not being taug't the art of bows and arrows, we was oblidged to stay at home and trust to providence, not knowing where the would strike the blow, till we heard it had unfortunately fell on fletcher's family, and then a number of the inhabitance got together, and we borrowed and beg'd a few loads one of another, and got the sign again and followed them across the head of powel's river and away to the foot of Cumberland mountain, and there lost the sign again. You seem to be angry because the men is not constantly ranging. You directed me to find the men that was stationed at the cove, provitions at sixpence p'r day. I am astonished at you to think that I could hier pack-Horses and follow them with provitions and keep them constantly ranging at so low a price. When you wrote to me in a letter that you could not send men out on the fronteer without we could find provitions, for it would be too Expencive for the Country to hier pack-Horses, you tell me to look to my conduct. But I shall say no more about that till we meet face to face. I received yours likewise, dated 16th August, most pointedly Ordering me to make a transmit of all the news I hear to you by the Solemn oath of the informer, and I suppose I must make return upon oath too. I profess to you that I do not know what you mean. Do you think that I must run after Every news I hear to get some one to Solemnly swear to it, or you will not make answer to it. But if you want any news that I hear, I shall think myself very happy in sending it to you as I get it, and if you want aney further proof, you have as little to do as I, you must hunt it, for I think you have as much power to order all the Country to come before you to make proof, as you have to order me to hunt the proof and send to you.

When Mr. Thomson informed me that you had given him orders to discharge his men and not to inlist aney more, upon your bare suposition that the Atention of the indians will be drawn the other way By general Martin's campain, I confess it quit amaz'd me that you would trust the lives of So many innocent Women and Children to a bare suposition. I differ so fare from you in Opinion that I expect the greatest Danger when

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that Armey is in their towns, but if the Indians should take the lives of any people on these frunteers through your favourable notions (I beg leave to make use of your own words to me), look you to it. 1788. August 22d

Sir, I remain your very Humble Searvant.

AND. ELLICOTT TO GOV. RANDOLPH, August 25th

In regard to the ballance due him from the State of Virginia for his services as one of the Commissioners to determine the boundaries between Virginia and Pennsylvania. He now draws for the amount, and as he will leave Baltimore in a few days and remove to Philadelphia, he requests the Executive to direct to him at that place, &c. Baltimore

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SUNDRY REGISTERS OF VESSELS

built in Virginia, Maryland and N. Carolina, and ranging from Sixteen to one hundred and forty-nine tons.

RESOLUTIONS PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CHEROKEE INDIANS, September 1st

By posting Troops of the United States at certain places, and calling on the States of Virginia and North Carolina to aid in carrying out the provisions of the Treaty with these Indians, made November 28th, 1785, &c. Congress

Also making enquiry into hostilities alledged to have been carried on against them by John Sevier and others at Chota, and that the authorities of N. Carolina be requested to investigate said facts and punish the perpetrators, &c.

THE HOUSE LATELY OCCUPIED BY MR. DUNSCOMB, AS AN OFFICER, September 4th

is rented to Clotworthy Stephenson at £4, which amount is to be paid in repairs to the Council House and T. Meriwether's office, &c. Richmond

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W. CROGHAN TO GOV. RANDOLPH. September 5th

Sir:

I had the honor of Receivng your Excellency's Dispatches Respecting the lands granted the officers and soldiers of the Virginia Continental and State Troops, and conformable thereto shall give such Information as lies in my power. Louisville, Kentucky

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1788. September 5th

From the best Information to be had, the quantity of good land in the military bounds, on the northeast side the Ohio, does not exceed Two millions of acres. After a length of time spent in Exploring the military Lands on the northeast side the Ohio, in the year 1784, Locations was made by the Superintendants and others of all the good Lands known to be in the bounds, but fearing that some good Lands might yet remain unlocated, the Superintendants keep the office open for receiving entries in said bounds untill 1787, when, knowing of no more good Lands to be entered, they Advertised in the Virginia *Gazette* that the Surveyor for the Virginia Continental Troops would begin to receive locations and proceed to survey the lands between Scioto and little miami, on the northwest side the Ohio. 'Tis possible there may have been two or three hundred Thousand acres Dispersed thro' the military Bounds, on this side the Ohio, unlocated, when the Continenal line began to locate on the northwesr side the Ohio, but it lying in small detached Spotts, and unknown to the Superintendants, could not be entered. The Surveyor for the Virginia State Troops, in whose District the most of these unlocated lands lye, will have occasion for it all. A considerable number of the warrants of that line not having yet come to hand, and several locations thro' mistake being laid on bad land and interfering with others, will have to be entered, and should the suit now depending in this District Court, between the military and Treasury warrant claimants for the lands on the South side of Tenasee, be determined against the military, there will not be a sufficiency of good lands for them, and they being of the State line, are not permitted to locate between Scioto and little miami.

There has been locations for 867,672⅔ acres made on the South East side the Ohio for the Virginia State line, and 724,045⅓ acres for the Virginia Continental line.

Without having a return from the Register's office of the number of acres Issued, and that probably may be issued, can't determine the Deficiency of the Good land on the South East side the Ohio. The Land warrants in the hands of the Surveyor for the Virginia Continental Troops amounts to 2,769,079⅓ acres. Those in the hands of the Surveyor for the State Troops, 906,376⅓ acres, in the whole to 3,675,355⅔ acres. So that from what warrants are already in the Surveryor's hands, there is at least a Deficiency of 1,675,355⅔ acres.

There has been 1,395,385⅓ Acres Located, and part of it Surveyed, between Scioto and little miamia, on the North West side the Ohio, for the continental Virginia Troops. There being no Actual Survey made of the whole of the Military bounds on the North East side the Ohio, can't with certainty say how much it contains, but from the best maps and Information suppose it may be estimated at 6,000,000 of Acres, 3,500,000 Acres of which is allotted the Virginia State Troops and 2,500,000 Acres the continental Virginia Troops, two-thirds of which lands, both in the State and Continental bounds, are Barren and lands unfit for cultivation. All the best lands between Tenasee, Mississippia, Ohio and the North Carolina bound-

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ary line, to the amount of near 300,000 Acres, are all located on Treasury land Warrants. The Same land being located on military Warrants, Suits are now depending between the military and Treasury Warrant claimants. I believe the Judges are about sending this Suit to the High Court of Appeals.

1788. September 5th

I am, with the Greatest Respect,
Your Excellency's most Humble and Obedient Serv't.

THOMAS BIGGINS, BALLAST AND HARBOR MASTER,

September 6th

Complains to the Executive of the conduct of masters of vessels who discharge their ballast into the River at that place, whereby he thinks that in 20 or 30 years more no large vessel will be able to get up James River higher than that place because of the filling up of the channel on this account, &c.

City Point

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, EDMUND RANDOLPH, GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

September 6th

I observe among the acts of the last assembly one w'ch regards the loss of papers out of the County offices. In some of the counties in which this loss has happened the people have prosecuted their suits at Common law, under a hope that before they should come to tryal the appointment of commissioners would be made agreeably to the act which I allu'ed to, &c.; that by appointing them speedily you will do great service to a multitude of people who have causes depending at present on papers which have been lost by the destruction or robbery of the Offices, &c.

Richmond

Concerning lost papers

Anonymous

LIEUT. COL. RICHARD C. ANDERSON TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

September 6th

Sir:

Having received by express from the Honorable George Muter and Colo. Marshall, superintendants of the Virginia State line, sundry resolutions of Congress of the 18th of July, and orders of Council thereupon of the 4th of August, and being directed by those gentlemen to recur to the same to enable me to comply with the requisitions therein contained, and at the request of Major Croghan, the only Superintendant of the Continental line at this place, I have proceeded to discharge the duty required of me so far as it is in my power; and am to premise that by the Superintendants and surveyors of both lines the whole quantity of lands on the South East side the Ohio, in the reserved tract for the Military, were estimated at 6,000,000 acres, and under that estimate 2,500,000 were allotted to the Continental line, and 3,500,000 allotted to the State line, two-thirds of the whole judged barren and unfit for cultivation, leaves 2,000,000

Louisville

Military locations and surveys pertaining to State and Continental lines

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1788. . acres of good land in both lines. The fact which it is in my power to
September 6th ascertain are, that by the entries in my office it appears that 724,045⅓ acres have been located on the South East side of the Ohio between the 20th July, 1784, being the day on which my office opened, and the first day of August, 1787, upwards of three years, at which time it was directed by the superintendants that the office should be opened for enter'g lands on the North West side of the Ohio; that 867,672⅓ acres have been located by the State line, amounting to 1,592,717 acres located on the South East side, and that not less than 300,000 in the reserved land on the South East side have been located and surveyed by sundry persons under the authority of Treasury Warrants, for which land suits are commenced and are now depending in the General Court in the district of Kentucky between the Superintendants as plaintiffs and those claiming under Treasury Warrants; that on and since the first day of August, 1787, 1,395,385⅓ acres have been located on the North West side of the Ohio between the Sioto and Little Miami, and that Warrants to the amount of 2,769,079⅓ acres are lodged in my office to be located. To give a state of the business more accurate or comprehensive would require an actual survey of the whole lands reserved on the South East side of the River, which would also require time and the means of defraying the expense attending the work.

I am y'r Excellency's mo. ob. Servant.

September 8th To His Excellency the Governor of Virginia, in Council.

Treasury office J. Ambler informs the Hono'ble Board that the account of Disbursements made at the Treasury since the first of March last are prepared for the examination of the committee.

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's Mo. obed. Serv't.

September 8th A. W. Dunscomb

Requests of his Excellency Governor Randolph an order for a Warrant on the contingent fund to procure stationary for the use of his office.

September 8th Edmund Lyne, Esq., to Capt. Henry Lee, at Richmond.

Blue Licks Thanks him for his favour. Expects a petition will be delivered to you (Capt. Lee) for a division of our county. Should the division take place, I have to request of you not to bring out any commission for me in the militia. Says to Capt. Lee, fill that office yourself. I know of none in

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the limestone settlements more worthy of it than yourself. It perhaps may be of some service to you, and it will be of none to me, and, besides, I have had my satisfaction of empty honours. I will not accept of the commission upon no considerations whatsoever. If you could possibly procure and get brought out one act of each session for some years back, I think you would do the new county, if we should have one, a very essential piece of service, as I scarcely know how business will be conducted unless we can have the laws for our direction. As for the news from this country, I will refer you to Col. Garrard.

1788. September 8th

I am, D'r Sir, y'r mo. ob't S't.

He adds, in postscript, that he is told that Mr. Alexander Orr will not be recommend a justice, because his residence is not yet fixed in y'r (Capt. Lee's) neighbourhood, but he told me he should fix next you this fall. I think he ought to be in the commisssion of the peace, and his name inserted before many others, &c. If you should have 2 dollars to spare, I wish you would purchase one Starke's justice for me.

Wm. Nowell to Gov. Randolph.

September 8th

Encloses, at the request of the Executive, a state of the Evidence on the trial of Hary, a slave belonging to Mr. Col. Digges.

James City county

George Randall Complains

September 10th

That large quantities of goods sold by himself and others had been rec'd by government as the Payment for quantitys of Tob'o, which Tob'o having been either sold or shipped to sea on the acc't of the Government, or the Publick. Petitions to be paid for such Tob'o, agreeable to the agreement or bargains made by himself or his agents. The mode of payment to be either in cash or such other Property or Effects as might be thought lawful to be taken for such purpose, or agreed upon for the Payment. The Attorney-General and clerks of the Council, to ascertain the sums so due, in case of any mistake in the Naval List or County Court Clerk's returns, or in case of want of Proofs of the sums sold, to have leave to call for the testimony of William G. Garland, late of King William, John Quarles of said county, and a young Frenchman, who is a stranger to the subscriber, and can be further described by the said Quarles, also Drury Ragsdale, Rich'd Parker, Esq., Wm. and Leroy Peachy, and others than the said Garland, who sold goods, slaves, or Tob'o for George Randall.

Richmond Town

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1788. SAMUEL OSGOOD AND ARTHUR LEE, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

September 10th Board of Treasury Circular

In obedience to an order of Congress, of the 5th September, 1788, we have the honor of enclosing to your excellency a copy of a letter written by this Board to the Comptroller of accounts for the State of Connecticut, on the subject of Invalid pensions, together with a copy of our Report on the same subject.

We have the honor to be

Your Excellency's most Obed't, Humb. Serv'ts.

September 11th

A. SINGLETON'S COMPLIMENTS

Wait on Capt. Coleman. Will be obliged to him to ask the Governor for a warrant for £2,000 on the Sinking fund, and be so obliging as to let me know if anything can be done with respect to drawing the interest on the certificates which was paid into the Treasury previous to the establishment of the Sinking Fund.

September 11th

DEPOSITIONS OF CHARLES HUNT AND MATTHEW ANDERSON,

James City county taken before Sam'l Griffin and Dudley Digges

Both residents of the City of Williamsburg, showing that William James Lewis, one of the inspectors at the College Landing Warehouse, had refused to inspect Tobacco on several occasions when requested so to do. They charge inattention to business, and commission of blunders in its transaction, and the deponent, Anderson, says he verily believes that the Blunders made by the said Lewis proceed from his being too fond of liquor. They express the opinion that in this state of things the said Warehouse will lose the accustomed patronage of the planters, and therefore request the removal of the inspector Lewis.

September 12th

L. WOOD, V. SOL., TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Richmond Solicitor's office

I am to request the favour of your Excellency's order to the Auditor for a warrant for fifty pounds to defray the expenses of giving Notices and sending executions.

Most Respectfully

I am, Sir, your Excellency's

Most ob. and very H'ble Serv't.

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JOSEPH ELAM TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. 1788.

Complains that he had been confined in a lunatic Hospital in Philadelphia on charges made by irresponsible persons, and asks the protection of the Governor, accompanied by an autograph letter of Benjamin Franklin, Governor of Pennsylvania, to Governor Randolph of Virginia, relative to said Elam, and enclosing the declaration of the Society of Friends in Philadelphia against the conduct of said Elam, and Mr. Elam's letter and petition to Governor Franklin. September 12th Richmond

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(Copy.)

THE VIRGINIA DELEGATION TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE TREASURY BOARD. September 12th

Gentlemen:

We shall transmit to the Governor of Virginia, for the consideration of the Executive, the papers which you have enclosed us respecting the double settlement of Dr. George Draper with the U. S. and the State of Virginia for the same service in the late army, but we conceive it proper to apprise you, Gentlemen, that the attention of the Executive will be called to the resolutions of congress of the 13th of June, 1781, in the following words, to-wit: "that it be, and hereby is, recommended to the several States, to which the Officers of the Hospital and medical department respectively belong are, or were, inhabitants to settle the accounts of the said officers for depretiation on the principles of the resolutions of the 10th of April, 1780, and to make provision for paying the balances that may be found due in the same man'er with officers of the line;" That each State which shall advance more money in making good the depretiation to its respective citizens, than its proper proportion, shall be allowed for the same on account of the United States. These resolutions, Gentlemen, appear to have absolutely referred officers of the description of Doctor Draper to the States where they had been inhabitants at the time of entering the service for their depretiation without even holding up an appearance that any other provision had been or would be made for them, consequently it would seem that the States had no guard to take against previous settlements with the U. S., and that charges for depretiation paid to such officers will be adjudged valid, notwithstanding such previous settlements which might have been made by the applicants. We take the liberty to submit these considerations, in order that you may determine whether it will not be best for the U. S. to take proceedings against Doctor Draper for their indemnification. New York Delegates to Congress from the State of Virginia

We have the Honor to be, &c.

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1788. SAMUEL OSGOOD AND ARTHUR LEE, COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF TREASURY TO THE DELEGATES TO CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.

September 15th
Board of Treasury

Gentlemen:

We have considered the letter you did us the honor to write on the 12th Inst., and the Resolve of Congress of the 13th June, 1781, and beg leave to refer you to an Act of Congress of the 20th February, 1782, by which we apprehend Dr. Draper's account could only be settled at the Treasury of the United States, if he did not belong to the State of Virginia, which, from his application to the Comptroller, he could not at that time have conceived to be the case. Exclusive of this consideration, you will observe from a resolve of Congress of the 29th of February, 1780, that the States could only pay the Balances due to their line after deducting the advances made by the United States. It necessarily follows that the auditors of the State, in order to effect this settlement, should either have obtained from the Treasury of the United States a state of the payments made, or have required such a statement from the person applying for a settlement; had this been done in the settlement with Dr. Draper, the imposition which seems to have been practised could not have taken place. Several instances have occurred to us where States have made large advances from inattention or want of proper documents, which we do not consider as valid charges against the Union. If it holds good in one case, it will probably extend very far, and this consideration constrains us, in the present instance, to object to the advance made by the State of Virginia.

We have the honor to be,
With great respect, Gentlemen,
Your most Obedient Humble Servants.

September 15th

T. MERIWETHER TO THE GOVERNOR,

Reports the delinquencies of the Militia Officers in the year 1787, are in the hands of the Solicitor, who will prosecute agreeable to Law. No delinquencies have come to my knowledge in the present year, 1788.

September 15th
Fayette, Kentucky

THOMAS MARSHALL TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

In answer to the letter your Excellency did me the honor to address particularly to me, I can only say that several caveats entered by the Superintendants in favor of the officers of the State line against the claimants under the Treasury warrants, within the tract of country you men-

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tion, are now depending before our District court, and that it has been agreed by the litigants to state the different points on which the determination of this dispute depends, to the high court of appeals for their decision thereon, which will form the rule by which the supreme court of the District will decide in future cases of a similar nature. Should the determination be in favor of the officers, there will be no farther danger of their loosing that land, and I shall be in hopes that within the limits of partition agreed on between the Continental and State lines, the latter will find a sufficiency of good lands to satisfy their demands, otherwise I fear they will fall short. For farther information on this head, I beg leave to refer you to my son, John, who will be engaged on the part of the officers, and will have a full state of the matter sent down to him, and to the general statement, signed by Col. Muter and myself accompanying this letter.

1788. September 15th

I have the honor to be, with the most respectful esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble humble servant.

COMPLAINT BY MATTHEW ANDERSON, September 15th

That James Dabney, Gent., had issued a search warrant against two mulatto Lads, John and Abraham, then in possession of said Anderson, and charges much impropriety in relation to the arrest and detention of the lads.

T. MARSHALL AND GEORGE MUTER TO GOV RANDOLPH. September 16th

Fayette, Kentucky

Have never, in any one instance, acted as superintendants in the western country. Fear that the ensuing report will not be found so satisfactory as it ought to be.

In obedience to an order of Council, of the 4th of August last, directed to the Superintendants appointed by virtue of an act of Assembly, entitled an Act for surveying the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers on Continental and State establishment. We, the subscribers, having been appointed superintendants under the authority of the said act, and being the only superintendants we know of at this time, residing in the District of Kentucky, after making every enquiry into the articles referred to the Superintendants by the aforesaid order of Council, by every means at present in our power, do report as follows, viz:

1st. We find that the Superintendants and surveyors of both lines judged the whole quantity of reserved lands on the S. E. side of the Ohio to be six millions of acres, of which they estimated that two-thirds, or four millions of acres, was barren and unfit for cultivation, and that one-third, or two millions of acres was good land, and, therefore, fit to be entered and surveyed for the officers and soldiers of both lines.

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1788. September 16th

2d. We find that by the Act of Cession of the lands N. W. of the Ohio to Congress, no reservation was made of lands to make up any deficiency to the officers and soldiers of the State line, there might be of good lands, to furnish the quantity due to them by law, and that justice might be done to them and differences be prevented from arising between them and the Officers and Soldiers of the Continental line on locating and surveying the lands S. E. of the Ohio, it was agreed upon by the officers of the deputations from both lines that a division of the lands S. E. of the Ohio should take place. This was accordingly put in execution during the sitting of the Assembly at the October session, in the year 1783. The part which fell to the State line on that division was estimated to be Three millions five hundred thousand acres on the whole, or one million one hundred and sixty-six thousand six hundred and sixty-six acres, and one-third of an acre of land, fit for cultivation. And the part which fell to the continental line was estimated at Two millions five hundred thousand acres on the whole, or eight hundred and thirty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three acres, and one-third of an acre of land, fit for cultivation.

3d. We find that warrants to the amount of nine hundred and six thousand and seventy-nine acres, and one-third of an acre, have been lodged with the surveyour, of which Eight hundred and sixty-seven thousand six hundred and seventy-two acres, and one-third of an acre, have been located on the part of the State line, which, however, is not the whole of the lands due to that line. But we have no means by which we can be informed of the whole amount of the lands due to that line, nor of the quantity, for which warrants have issued, which have not yet been lodged with the surveyour. Information with respect to these warrants and the amount of them may be had from the Register of the land office. But we cannot say, with certainty, how any information with respect to the claims for which no warrants have issued, can be obtained.

4th. We find that entries have been made on the best land So. of the Tenessee (part of the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers) on Treasury warrants, to the amount of about Three hundred thousand acres. That of these entries about ninety thousand acres were made for the State, which will still be subject to the claim of the officers and soldiers. But that the ballance, of about two hundred and ten thousand acres, the officers and soldiers must contend for in the courts of law, and that if the decision should be against them, and warrants, tho' but to a small amount, should still come forward, which must be looked for, there will, in all probability, be an absolute deficiency on the part of the State line. It may be proper here to observe that there are caveats now depending in the supreme court for the District of Kentucky, between the officers and the locators on Treasury warrants, and that the officers are prohibited from surveying any lands So. of the Tenessee, those lands not yet having been purchased of the Indian claimants.

5th. We find that warrants have been lodged with the Surveyour for the Virginia Continental line to the amount of Two millions, seven hun-

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dred and sixty-nine thousand and seventy-nine acres and one-third of an acre, but we cannot tell how far short these warrants fall of the full amount of the lands due to the officers and soldiers of that line, nor do we know what number of warrants, or to what amount have been issued by the Register of the land office that are not yet delivered to the Surveyour. 1788. September 16th

6th. We find there have been locations made on the S. E. side of the Ohio for the Virginia Continental line to the amount of Seven hundred and twenty-four thousand and forty-five acres and one-third of an acre, from the 20th of July, 1784, the day on which the office was opened, to the first of August, 1787; That there was then a deficiency arising on the warrants in the hands of the surveyour amounting to Two millions, forty-five thousand and thirty-four acres; That the Superintendants directed that on the 1st of August, 1787, the office should be opened for locations on the N. W. side of the Ohio; That there have been locations made from that time to the amount of One million, three hundred and ninety-five thousand, three hundred and eighty-five acres and one-third of an acre, part of which has been surveyed; And that there is still due to the said line, on the warrants in the hands of their Surveyour, Six hundred and forty-nine thousand, seven hundred and forty-nine acres.

7th. We find that from want of a thorough knowledge of the country on the S. E. side of the Ohio, at the time the locations or entries were made by the Superintendants for the officers and Soldiers of the Continental and State lines, that there have been several locations made on bad land, and that many instances have been found where locations interfere with others. In both these cases there must be reëntries; And added to this, should the caveats now depending be determined against the military claimants, there would be most probably a deficiency of good land on the S. E. side of the Ohio, to make good all the locations made for the officers and soldiers of the Continental line on that side, and satisfy the claims of the officers and soldiers of the State line.

T. MARSHALL AND GEORGE MUTER — September 16th

Certify that Mr. Leblanc, who brought dispatches to them from the Executive of Virginia, has been detained in this District a considerable length of time in consequence of his being obliged to go express to Louisville, and after his return to wait till we could get our papers ready to forward to the Executive. Mr. Lebanc will sett of from Fayette to-morrow morning for the Crabb Orchard, where it is probable he will be obliged to wait for a company to proceed thro' the wilderness with. Fayette, Kentucky

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1788. L. WOOD, SOLICITOR TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

September 17th Richmond Inspections at Petersburg, Cedar Point, Boyd's, Davis' and Blanford, John Bolling's, Bolling Point, and Bolling Brooke

Sir:

Agreeably to your Excellencie's directions I find that the Inspectors at Petersburg and Cedar Point, at Boyd's, Davis' and Blandford, have settled and paid their accounts. The Inspectors at John Bolling's have made it appear that the accounts formerly rendered by them, and which were supposed to be from 1785 to 1786, were from 1786 to 1787, and that no returns had been made from 1785 to 1786, which account is now rendered, but no payment, tho' promised, and is expected daily. Bolling Point have settled and left a balance of about £430; Bolling Brooke have likewise settled, leaving a Balance of about £230 only.

I am, Sir, your Excellency's

Most ob'd't and very h'ble Serv't.

September 17th WILLIAM ARMISTEAD, SHERIFF OF ELIZABETH CITY, TO GOV'R RANDOLPH,

Elizabeth City county

Informing him that he took Benjamin Dissinnis under an execution, and thought him entitled to [the priviledge of] the prisson bounds, for keeping which he took bond with good security. Afterwards Dissinis had run off to Carolina, of which, as also of the Bond, he gave Martin Coster immediate notice. Coster, on account of the escape, held the Sheriff responsible for the debt and costs. The sheriff supposes Coster will apply to the Council for process against him, and wishes to know whether Coster or himself should prosecute on the Bond.

September 17th MAYO CARRINGTON TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Manchester Buckingham furnace lands to be sold for taxes

Sir:

Since parting with you this day I have seen a paper wherein the Buckingham furnace lands are advertized by the Sheriff for the paym't of taxes for 1786. The Col'ector for the Revenue of 1787 has signified to me that he should be under the necessity of selling part of those lands, and the negroes, which are similarly circumstanced, for his col'ection. If those sales are carried into effect the public may probably be loser, as the property may properly be considered as belonging to the public. I have been informed that the Executive have generally directed that the col'ector should be credited for those taxes, to prevent the sale of the property to so great a disadvantage, and that they should stand charged in the account against the partners. Any directions the executive may give in consequence of this information I will particularly attend to.

I am Y'r Mo. Ob't.

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JOHN HOLCOMBE PETITIONS THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA, 1788.

September 18th

Informing them that he farmed the Sheriff's place of Thomas Flournoy, Sheriff of Prince Edward County, for the year 1786, and let out one-half of the County to a Mr. Robt. Watkins, who acted as Sheriff. Your Petitioner has paid nearly his proportion, and Mr. Watkins has fallen short, who was Deputy with your Peti'oner. The Exo. has issued and levyed on the estate of Thomas Flournoy, Sheriff, for the arrears. Prays that there may be a suspension of the Exo. until the 20th day of November next, that he may have redress against the said Watkins. Offered to pay a considerable part of the Exo., but Sheriff refused to receive it untill stated under the Treasurer's hand what he was to receive. Gives assurance that he will most certainly discharge the whole by the aforesaid time.

BENJ: HARRISON, JR., TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

September 18th

Richmond

Captain Sargeant's claim for Duck taken for public use

Sir:

Enclosed is a demand of Capt. Wm. H. Sargeants *vs.* the Commercial Agent of this State, for a parcel of Duck, which, being in the care of Mr. Ross, in his Petersburg Store, when he was agent and Capt. Sargeant at sea, was taken for publick use. Various applications have been made by me in behalf of Capt. Sargeant for payment, but without success, and three years ago I had the mortification to see others payed claims of a like nature, rating the Tobacco due them at 28s. and 29 ℔ 100 lb., while I could not obtain a shilling in behalf of my friend. I have made out the account for Petersburg Tobacco and at the present price, that being the place from from whence the goods were taken.

I have the honor to be, with every sentiment of Respect,
Your Excellency's very Obed't S'v't.

A'W DUNSCOMB TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

September 18th

Richmond

Asks his opinion and correction of an enclosed paper. In his most exceedingly complicated business fears censure, but conscious of a most faithful attention to his business, appeals to those who have viewed his conduct.

AND. WODROW TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

September 20th

Romney, Hampshire county

Resignation of James Murphy as searcher at Romney, and William Jacob recommended in his place

Informs him that James Murphy, who was appointed Searcher for this place (Romney) is about to remove to the Western Waters, and begs leave to recommend a Mr. William Jacob to be appointed in his place. Will readily undertake to be responsible for his conduct, as he has every reason to believe him to be a person of strict integrity, &c. Is of opinion that such an officer is necessary here, and is pretty certain the duty will be strictly attended to by Mr. Jacob. [Enclosed is the commission of Murphy, as Seacher, on which his resignation is endorsed.]

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1788. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

September 21st Petersburg

Sir:

I am this moment honored with a duplicate of your Excellency's letter of the 19th of last month. Having been absent up the country for sometime with a sick family, I have to lament I had not received your favor sooner. Should my silence not have induced you to apply elsewhere, and the business still remain open for my attention at this time, I will immediately wait on your Excellency, and will be much obliged by a line of information by my servant.

I have the honor to be, Sir, very respectfully,

Your Excellency's most obed't Servant.

September 22d DELEGATION OF VIRGINIA TO THE BOARD OF TREASURY.

Gentlemen:

New York Delegates of Virginia to the Board of Treasury relating to Doctor Draper

We have attended to the letter you did us the honor to write on the 15th Instant, in which you adhere to your objection to the sum standing as a charge against the Union, which has been paid by the State of Virginia to Doctor Draper for his depretiation. It appears that you now rest this objection upon two grounds:

1st. That Doctor Draper was not an inhabitant of Virginia, and within the description of officers refered to that State for settlement, under the resolution of the 13th of June, 1781.

2dly. That the auditor of the State neglected to obtain from the Treasury of the United States a statement of the payments which had been made to the applicant, or to require such statement from himself.

Whereupon we beg leave to observe as to the first, that we are well assured that, upon investigation, Doctor Draper will be found to have been an inhabitant of Virginia at the time of his entering the service, and to have joined the army in one of the regiments of the line of that State. As to the second, it appears to us that when the United States refered certain officers to their respective States for settlement, in the unreserved terms of the Resolution of the 13th June, 1781, it became incumbent on them to transmit the necessary statements for preventing impositions, and that it could not have been expected that the individual States were to call for them. We are, however, happy in being able to inform you that every difficulty upon this point is superceded by a compliance with the alternative which you have brought to view; for the Virginia act authorizing the settlement of claims, such as Doctor Draper exhibited, required from the applicants, in order to guard against fraud on every side, returns upon oath of all advances which they might have received, either from the State or the United States. We are thus careful to inform you fully upon this subject, in order that the United States may be proceeding in proper —— against Doctor Draper for their indemnification.

We have the Honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your most Ob't Serv'ts.

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SOLICITOR WOODS' STATEMENT OF MR. JOHN H. NORTON'S CLAIM AGAINST THE COMMONWEALTH. 1788. September 22d

Balance due him, 65,231 lbs. of upland James River Tobacco. Hopes to receive his excellency's order to the auditor for warrants to that amount on the Aggregate Fund. Norton's claim for Upland James River tobacco

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AT A COURT HELD FOR ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, September 22d

Doct'r Samuel Gay being appointed by a former order of this court to view the wounds of William Donaphin, which he received in the Defence of this State, under the command of Colonal Benjamin Harrison, made Report that he had examined the same and is of opinion that they render him incapable of getting his Living by labour, which is ordered to be certified by the Court.

Teste: ILWIN, *D. C.*

AT A COURT HELD FOR MADISON COUNTY, September 23d

On Tuesday, the 23d of September, 1788:

Ordered, That David Crews, John South, William Jones, and John Collier be Recommended to his Excellency, the Governor, as proper persons to be commissioned as Inspectors of Tobacco at the inspection established at Boonsborough and Colliers. Madison county

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JOHN RONEY, BENJAMIN DAWSON, REUBEN BURNLEY, SAMUEL DUVAL, MICH'L FORD, THOMAS W. COCKE, September 24th

Clerks of Andrew Dunscomb, to Governor Randolph, requesting an increase of Salary compared with others in equal station, who receive greater than our present allowance.

JOHN TALIAFERRO, SHERIFF OF KING GEORGE COUNTY, September 25th

States that an execution has been issued against him as Sheriff of the county of King George for the Damages and interest of the ballance due for the Revenue Taxes of the year 1786. That on the first of August last the sum of £102. 6. 2. only remained due, which sum was paid in to the Treasurer by the 19th of said month, so that the Damages and Interest alone remained due. Requests that the Hon'ble Executive will, on a due consideration of the circumstances, remitt the Damages and Interest, &c. King George county

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1788. J'S MADISON, J'R, ED. CARRINGTON, C. GRIFFIN, DELEGATES OF VIRGINIA, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

September 27th New York

We do ourselves the honor to inclose to your Excellency a letter which we received from the Treasury Board on the 15th Inst., and our reply to it of the 22d, in addition to the papers transmitted sometime ago, upon the subject of Draper's settlement for his depretiation. We have conceived it our duty to make the several communications to the Board which have taken place, in order that there might be no plea of acquiescence on the part of the State in the protest on the part of the United States against the settlement made with the former, as founding a charge upon the latter. It remains for the Executive to treat the subject in such manner as to them shall seem best.

Virginia Delegates to Governor

We have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most Obe't Servants.

September 27th

COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Blandford

I have perused the papers entrusted to me by your Excellency, and from the nature of the business, as well as the late day when my agency in it will commence, I cannot undertake it without diffidence, and much apprehension that my endeavors may not give that satisfaction I shall be very anxious to afford. The period for the admission of claims is past, and the accounts and vouchers, imperfect as they must be, are already in the hands of the district commissioner. They are, therefore, not within my power of inspection, much less of a pointed preparation, either to establish the items or to controvert particular objections, those only excepted which have been noted by Mr. Winder. The refusal of Gentlemen by far more competent than myself to undertake this business at a period much earlier, and therefore of more leisure and advantage, canot fail to impress a conviction of the labor and difficulties I must encounter in the prosecution; indeed, under any circumstance I should scarcely feel myself at liberty to abandon my professional pursuits, already interrupted by absence with a sick family, and to suspend a very necessary attention to my private affairs, had I not a hope that from my former office in the State and agency with the army during a great part of the time, in which I presume a considerable proportion of the claims had their origin, I might be able to afford such useful information as in some measure might counterbalance my incompetency in other respects. I have, therefore, concluded to enter upon this business, tho' not without much anxiety for the critical situation of a very near connexion, whose indisposition has long engaged my solicitudes, and from whom absence would be particularly painful. I shall hope for that substantial aid and instruction which

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your Excellency can so well bestow, and to which I shall have frequent occasion to apply. I shall also hope for such information relative to the compensation I may expect, as will assure to me that while I am devoting my time to the service of the public I am not inattentive to the interests of those for whom I am more particularly bound to provide. 1788. September 27th

I have the honor to be, Sir, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's Most Obedient Servant.

COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. September 27th

Sir:

If the measures adopted by N. Carolina of sending a force into the Cherokee country, at the instant the commissioners for the United States were to meet the Indians in Treaty, do not despoil the business, we have a prospect of peace, as late accounts say the Indians are disposed for an accommodation. The immigrants are now in the Wilderness in great numbers. If they escape unmolested, it will be a pleasing proof of the propriety of the late measures ordered by the Executive. I am lately told that it has been asserted to your Excellency that William and Sam. Edmiston was not present when a recommendation of the court was made—I think in Feb'y, 1787—respecting myself, and that they charged the clerk with a forgery. Pronounces the assertion infamously false, &c. Washington county

I am, Sir, Your Most Obedient Servant.

M. CARRINGTON TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. September 27th

Received an act of congress respecting the lands reserved for the Virginia troops on the Scioto and little Miami, and an order of the Executive requiring a report from the Superintendants, agreeable to the requisition of Congress. As such a report must come from a board of Superintendants, and there are not present a sufficient number in Kentucky, conceives it necessary they should meet in Richmond as early as can be after an account of the present situation of the business is received from the surveyor's office. A summons in the Gazettes will probably be insufficient, as the papers but seldom reach far into the country—thinks about the fifteenth of November will be a proper time for their meeting, as the returns may by that time arrive from Kentucky. Inclosed is a list of the names of those who have acted in the business and their places of residence. Cumberland county

I am, Sir, with respect and esteem,

Y'r Mo. Obe. H'e S't.

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1788. L. WOOD, SOLICITOR, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

September 29th Since making a report on the Bills held by John Beckley, Esq., on behalf of Joseph Challon, I find that Mr. Shannon's Book, wherein the Bills appear to be entered, contains also Accounts with the different persons in whose favour he had drawn, which shows that the Articles furnished were provisions and other Articles necessary for the support of Troops.

Most respectfully, I am, sir,

Your Excellency's most ob't and very h'ble Serv't.

September 29th CERTIFICATE OF THE CLERK OF AUGUSTA COUNTY,

That the lists of Taxable property in this County for the year 1785 were not delivered to the Sheriff for collection until some time in the month of April, 1786, and the lists for the year 1786 not till in the month of February, 1787.

September 30th WILLIAM ROSE, K. P. JAIL,

Furnishes list of Prisoners for trial at October Court, 1788.

September 30th L. WOOD, SOLICITOR, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Richmond There appears to have been a Bill of Exchange for 10,000 Livres drawn by the late Board of Trade on Mess. Penet & co. in favour of Mr. Simon Nathan, that I do not find accounted for by Mr. Nathan in any of his accounts against the Publick.

Mr. Alexander, on behalf of Mr. Nathan, requests that the said 10,000 Livres may be placed to the Debit of the Board of Trade's protested Bill for 15,000 Livres now held by that Gentleman, to admit which request it is necessary that I should have your Excellency's instructions, otherwise I shall place the 10,000 Livres to the Debit of Mr. Nathan's Claim against the Commonwealth for sundry Western accepted Bills.

I am, Sir Your Excellency's Most ob't

and very h'ble Serv't.

September 30th PAPERS RELATING TO CLAIM OF THE COMMONWEALTH *vs.* DR. JOHN HUNTER,

Sheriff of Campbell County, for taxes due for the year 1784, including the letters of Ro. Alexander and James Callaway, the Statement of L. Wood, Solicitor, and the petition of Sundry inhabitants of the county of Campbell.

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JACOB WESTFALL TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH, 1788. October 1st

Informing him that he had sent by Mr. John Elliott the pay-Roll for the Militia of Randolph County. Randolph county pay-roll

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LEIGHTON WOOD, JUN'R, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. October 1st

Sir:

Mr. Pendleton informs me that he has inclosed your Excellency the statement of Mr. Norton's Claim against the Commonwealth; requests him to lay it before the council, and hopes that on a second consideration an allowance for further Interest, together with the Tobacco not delivered, will be thought reasonable. Richmond Norton's claim

Your Excellency's most ob't and verry H'ble Serv't.

W. GRAVES TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. October 1st

Incloses account of the cost of the Boat to be used by him in Hampton Roads. Will knows that a number of Vessels inward bound lay there six or eight days, and are not examined; also thinks it his duty to inform him that there is a great Quantity of tobacco brought from Carolina and Landed at this Port, afterwards Exported for Europe withought being Inspected; also a quantity of Brown Sugar from Baltimore and other places, which they call refin'd, and have Certificates to prove it, &c. Norfolk

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GOVERNOR'S LETTER TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS. October 3d

Gentlemen:

We have received a letter from the board of Treasury, with several inclosures concerning arrearages of pensions. I do myself the honor of inclosing to you a copy of our act in consequence thereof. I beg leave at the same time to add, that we have not spoken of carrying the arrearages of Militia to any other period than the time of the wounds which occasioned the disability being received. Perhaps it may be proper, where the time of their discharge or the ceasing of their pay can be proved, to make this the period to which their arrearages are to be calculated. But this may not be always capable of proof. I mention this circumstance lest a misconstruction should be made, and indeed it seemed to be less important to say anything about the time of the Militia being discharged or ceasing in their pay, as I suppose that an answer to the case of regulars in these points will be an answer in the same respects to the case of Militia. I beg your immediate attention to this subject.

I have the honor, &c.,

E. R.

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1788. IN COUNCIL.

October 3d

Letter to Delegates in Congress relating to pensions

The governor laid before the board a letter from the board of treasury, dated on ye 19 day of Sep., '88, and their letter to Oliver Wolcott, esq., of the 21 of July, 1788, and the resolutions of Congress of the 26 of Aug., 1776, 25 of September, 1778, 23d of Ap'l, 1782, 7th of June, 1785, and 11 of June, 1788, being also read. It is thereupon advised that a letter be written to the delegates in Congress informing them that the report of the board of treasury does not, in the construction of the Executive, answer the question propounded in their letter of the 11th of August, 1788, as fully as they wish; that the difficulty is whether persons, either regulars or militia, in the service of the United States, who are entitled to pensions, but whose pensions take effect at any distance of time from the ceasing of their pay or their discharge from the army in the case of regulars, or from the receiving of their wounds in the case of Militia, can now have their pensions carried back to those periods of time so as to be charged against the United States. It is further advised that Colo. Meriwether be instructed to select from the list of pensions all those who come within the description of regulars and Militia above mentioned, and where pensions are conformable with the requisitions contained in the resolution of the 11th of June, 1788, and are chargeable against the United States, and report to this board.

Copy—Teste: A. BLAIR, *C. C.*

October 3d COL. T. MERIWETHER'S REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AS TO THE POINT OF FORK.

Point of Fork

Reports the quarterly returns and Pay Rolls of the Superintend't just and accurate: Seventy-two pounds twelve shillings due to the Guard; A Balance of One hundred and forty-one pounds five shillings and 10½ due to the Superintendant, artificers and Laborers. Incloses an estimate of Forage and other necessaries, and states that 4,000 flints only have been purchased, and that there are no more to be procured within the State.

October 4th BENJ. HARRISON, JR., TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Agreeably to your Excellency's request I enclose you the report of the committee of claims on Capt. Sargeant's petition. Mr. Wood told us that other claimants had been payed at the rate of 28 and 29 ℔ for the Tobacco due them, and I take it the assembly meant that Capt. Sargeant should be payed the same proportion at the same rate, and that the bal. should be discharged by a warrant on the aggregate fund—hopes it may be determined at once what (Capt. Sargeant) has a right to, &c.

I am with respect

Your Ex'c'y's very obe'd't S't.

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J's MADISON, JR., ED. CARRINGTON, HENRY LEE, C. GRIFFIN, DELEGATES IN CONGRESS FROM VIRGINIA, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. 1788.

Sir: October 4th

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellencie's New York letter of the 23d ult., inclosing copies of the account and vouchers founding the settlement of the State of Virginia with Doctor Draper for his depretiation, and leaving it in our discretion whether to prosecute him for the indemnification of the State, or to take any steps toward establishing the validity of the transaction against the United States. Upon fully considering this subject in all its points, we have determined that it will be the most safe course to rely upon the validity of the transaction against the United States, for the following Reasons:

1st. Upon consultation with an eminent Practitioner of this city, it becomes questionable whether there exists a legal ability in one State to sustain an action against an individual in another.

2dly. It is equally questionable whether Doctor Draper's circumstances are such as to yield the damages could a suit be sustained and terminate in a judgment against him.

3dly. Any unsuccessful effort against Doctor Draper might weaken the claim of the State against the United States, as founded upon the Resolution of the 13th of June, 1781.

And 4thly. The effect would extend to all other cases that may be similar to Doctor Draper's, and it is highly probable there are some such.

In pursuance of this determination we have transmitted to the Board of Treasury the copies which your Excellency did us the honor to forward, together with a letter, of which the enclosed is a copy. This proceeding is submitted to the judgment of the Executive, and we shall be happy in being honored with such further directions as may appear proper.

We have the the honor to be, with great respect,
Your Excellencie's most Ob't Serv'ts.

P. S.—We have also the Honor to enclose to your Excellency two Resolutions of Congress, which have lately passed, upon the subject of navigation of the Mississippi.

PETITION OF JOHN CORBETT TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA. October 4th

Who was wounded at the battle of Monmouth, and received a pension of twelve pounds until 1786, when it was withheld because he did not have a certificate signed by General Steuben and the Secretary of the Board of War. Appeals to the Governor and Council for aid.

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1788. JAMES HARRIS (MANAGER) TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

October 4th Cole's escape

Friend Randolph :

Andrew Cole, one of the Prisoners under my care, yesterday made his escape, from thy fr'd.

October 4th WM. JOHN TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA,

Monongalia county Sheriffalty

Relating to his appointment as sheriff of Monongalia County. States his objection to qualifying on account of the Land tax, but is always ready to serve the Publick if in the limits of (his) my power.

October 6th CAPT. HARTWELL COCKE

Informs the Governor that the Court of Southampton hath not nominated any person to serve as sheriff this year, owing, perhaps, to their not having the Act of Assembly by them. The Cl'k, too, was absent one of ye court days app'd by Law for this purpose. Informs him also that Capt. Holleman, the present sheriff, has not yet served a year, and is willing to continue in the office the 2 years, and that there is no opposition, &c.

October 6th PETITION OF MAURICE LANGHORNE, LATE SHERIFF OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

Recites that an execution had issued against him as sheriff for arrearages of the tax for 1785, returnable to the General Court, which happens before the County Court, and excludes his list of collections. To enable him to pay what he has in his hands before the sale of his Estate will take place under the Execution, prays the Honourable board to grant a suspension of the return of the Execution, or other relief, &c.

October 6th L. WOOD, SOLICITOR.

Statement of the account of John Hunter, sheriff of Campbell county, with the Commonwealth of Virginia for the Rev. taxes of 1784.

October 6th J. AMBLER, TREASURER, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

The Resolution of the Hono'bl. Board, dated the 3d inst., having excepted the funds appropriated to the interest of the army debt, it becomes necessary to inform your Excellency that the requisite sum for the

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officers of Civil Government would nearly exhaust all the other funds in the Treasury; and none of the funds being more than adequate to the demand on them, and several being deficient, I am at a loss how to act on the occasion. The sum of £5,650, specie, has been received in part payment of the public Tobacco sold. Perhaps the Hono'bl. Board may be of opinion that the present necessities of the officers of Civil Government might, with propriety, be relieved from this source. 1788. October 6th

I have the honor to be, with great respect,
Your Excellency's Obed't Serv't.

COL. BENJ. WILSON TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. October 7th

Informs him that the Indians hath not Done any mischief in this county since last November, 1787, To my knowledge. I have heard no certain accounts from the Expected Trety with the Indians at the mouth of the Muskingum. Reports say that the Indians has offered terms of peace, but not willing to surrender their Land. Therefore no Treaty of peace was concluded. I have ventured to Discharge the Rangers on the 22d of Sept. last. The scouts I still continue, but is determined To Discharge them as soon as consistant to the Publick Safety, as my wishes is not to accumilate the Public Debt. Harrison county

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October 8th Auditor's office

RECEIVED OF HIS EXCELLENCY, EDMUND RANDOLPH,

The Treasurer's Receipt for Sixteen pounds, a surplus of the money drawn out of the contingent fund for the purpose of employing Council to consult upon the account of this Commonwealth against the United States. Money drawn out of the contingent fund by the Governor restored to the treasury

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JOHN HARVIE, REGISTER OF THE L. OFF., TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. October 8th

Sir:

There has issued from the Land Office 4,434 Warrants of survey for military services performed in the State and continental Line, amounting to 4,185,000 acres.

J. PENDLETON TO THE GOVERNOR, October 8th

Enclosing a state of the claim of Mr. Thomas Smith for wages as commercial agent from Dec., '77, to Aug. '79, including the balance on his Cash account, &c. Auditor's office

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1788. LAURENCE BAKER, LATE SHERIFF OF THE COUNTY OF ISLE OF WIGHT, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

October 9th
Petition for suspension of execution for delinquent taxes of the county of Isle of Wight

Petition, stating that an Execution has been levied on the property of petitioner for the deficiency of the taxes of the said county for the years 1785 and 1786. That the fault rests on his deputies not on himself, but some delay has also been produced by motives of humanity, which have frequently restrained the collectors from selling the property of the people, to their great loss, perhaps, in some cases, utter ruin. The petitioner prays that the execution be suspended, to give an opportunity to make up the collection. The great crop of Brandy and other things made this year affords a certain prospect of his being able to accomplish the collection, so as to do justice to the Commonwealth in a way productive of no injury to the people nor of ruin to himself, and because the collector of the Taxes for the same County, for the year 1784, is still in arrear, and has been hitherto indulged, a period in which taxes were more easy to be collected than at any time since.

October 9th

JAMES JONES,

Tappahannock

Being informed that Geo. Wm. Smith has resigned his appointment of searcher at the Port of Tappahanock, offers himself as successor of Mr. Smith in that office.

October 10th

GEO. W. SMITH TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Essex county

Tenders his resignation as Seacher at the Port of Tappahannock, on account of the continued illness of his father and his own indisposition, and recommends as his successor Mr. James Jones, who resides in Tappahannock, &c.

October 13th

COL. CHAS. DABNEY

Hanover county
Location of lands on S. E. side of Ohio River

Certifies That at a board of officers, appointed by law to superintend the locating and surveying the lands set apart for the Virgina Troops, held at the falls of Ohio, the year 1784, That part of said lands lying on the southeast side of the Ohio river, was divided into districts, and a superintending officer appointed to each district for the purpose of exploring and locating all the good lands. That as a member of the board the country lying between the Green and Barren Rivers and the North Carolina line was allotted to him as a district. That after exploring the lands within said boundary about a month, [he] returned to the falls of Ohio and entered locations for all the good lands [he] discovered within said district.

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ROBERT WOODS, SHERIFF OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, 1788.

States in his petition that an execution has issued against him for the taxes of the year 1786; that from the Burden of the said tax on the poor inhabitants of his county and the amazing Scarcity of money his default has arisen. Prays that the Speedy Opperation (of the Execution) may be abaited for a short time, which will not only be relief to the poor, but Inable your petitioner to call in a Legal manner on his under Sheriffs, &c. October 15th

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JOHN WHITING, LATE SHERIFF OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY, October 15th

States in his petition to the Governor and Council that he was appointed Sheriff of said county in February, 1786; that Mr. John Dixon was Sheriff in 1785, the collection of the taxes for which last named year were postponed by act of Assembly until the 1st of March, 1786. That an execution has issued against him not only for what he himself is justly responsible, but also for the sum for which Mr. Dixon, the late Sheriff, is properly responsible; that the sale of his estate for ready money, considering the low price of property, would totally ruin him and his family; therefore prays a suspension of the Execution until the 1st of Jan'y next, &c.

STATEMENT OF CLAIMS October 15th

Of Western Militia to bounty lands: 3,567,724 acres.

CERTIFICATE OF SAM'L GRIFFIN October 16th

That John Stratton made oath that he is Master and owner of the Brig Nancy, of the burthen of 85 tons, and built in Norfolk county. Register of brig Nancy

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WM. MOORE, LATE SHERIFF OF ORANGE COUNTY, TO THE GOVERNOR, October 17th

States that two executions had issued against him for the Revenue Taxes due for the years 1785 and 1786; that his deputies, who alone made the collections and payments, informed him that they had paid the tax of 1785, and if not the whole, had paid nearly all the tax of 1786. He hopes the Hon'ble Executive will suspend the Executions to such time as they shall think reasonable, &c.

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1788. PAPER FROM GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

October 18th Packet from Governor Randolph to Governor Clinton

Enclosing a Certificate of Augustine Davis, Post-Master at Richmond, respecting a packet sent to the Post Office, to be forwarded to Governor Clinton, of New York, in December, 1787, but which was not received by Governor Clinton before the 7th of March following.

October 20th Lexington, Fayette county

ROBT. PATTERSON TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

I, at present, from the recommendation of Fayette court, and your appointment to serve as Sheriff in this County, and as the Court have failed to recommend eaney person for the —— year, I therefore request that I may be appointed, and a commission sent as early as pos'able. Eaney information that may be thought necessary may be had from Col. Jas. Trotter and Capt. Jno. Mcdowel, who represents this county, who, I expect, is now in Richmond, which is all at present from

Your Hum'e S't.

October 20th WILLIAM GIBB, NAVAL OFFICER, ACCOMACK, TO HIS EXCELLENCY, EDMUND RANDOLPH.

Sir:

I wrote you the 6th of August last, informing you that, in consequence of the fœderal Government being adopted by the State of Virginia, certain Gentlemen of Character and Influence in this county had objected to that part of the law which obliges vessels trading from one State to the other to enter and pay duties. Encloses letter of George Corbin, Attorney for the State, in Accomac county. Fears that he has erred in regarding the opinion of any man or anything less than the directions of the executive; but if he has erred in his official action, submits himself to whatever mortification the Executive may please to inflict, &c.

October 20th HOUDON'S AC'T OF EXPENSES OF HIS VOYAGE TO AND FROM AMERICA.

Houdon's account of epxenses of his voyage to and from America

Mr. Jefferson says: "M. Houdon having accompanied Dr. Franklin to America, who was equally employed with myself by the State of Virginia, the expenses herein charged were under his eye and authority till Houdon's departure from America. The subsequent articles were examined and approved by me."

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PETITION OF ELISHA WHITE, 1788.

Represents himself as being extremely injured by being deprived of his right from the Office of Sheriff—thought it was not only due to him from the date of his commission as a magistrate, but also from his constant attention to the dutys of his office—hopes for justice only from the Executive, &c. October 21st. County of petitioner not stated.

ANDREW WODROW (LIEUT.-COL.), MARQUIS CALMER (C'TY LIEUT.) AND —— ELLET TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. October 23d

Enclose copy of an order of Hampshire County, recommending Isaac Means as Captain of a Militia Company—object to him as a person of a turbulent and quar'elsome disposition—that he was sometime ago fined and imprisoned for insulting a magistrate in the discharge of his duty, and should the Honor'e Board think proper to approve of the nomination of Mr. Means, that you, the Board, would accept of our resignations, &c. Hampshire county. Objection to Isaac Means as Captain of a militia company.

JOS. JONES, (ATTORNEY,) October 24th

Says: "It appearing that the Exo. was levied on Colo. Thos. Flournoy's property before a suspension had been obtained from the Executive to stay the sale thereof," and the sheriff has removed and taken possession of the same, whereby the benefit of the suspension will be lost. He is of opinion that the said property may be safely restored to the said Flournoy upon his giving his obligation to the Solicitor that the said property shall not be released by such restoration, &c.

A. BLAIR, C. C., TO AUDITOR PENDLETON. October 24th

Enquires for what services certain Commissioners were appointed, and is informed that they were appointed under an act for calling in and redeeming the money now in circulation and for emitting and funding new Bills. Money in circulation called in and redeemed, and new bills emitted and funded.

WILLIAM HELM TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. October 25th

Acknowledges the receipt of his letter of the 23d of September, and that, agreeable to the Governor's opinion, he had stated the 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th charges in plainer terms, &c.

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1788. THOMAS WATKINS TO THE GOVERNOR.

October 25th States that a fine had been imposed upon him for selling spirituous liquors on Court days, at Halifax Court House, without a license; that he did not mean or intend to defraud the Commonwealth of any duties or taxes due thereto, and prays his Excellency to remit said fine and costs, &c.

October 27th ROBT. BOYD, DAVID LAMBERT AND ALEXANDER MCROBERT

Appointed to view and examine the public Gaol and report to Court, say "it is in as good order as can be from its situation."

October 27th CALENDAR OF CRIMINALS

Sentenced at a General Court to be hanged: William Wallace, late of the Couty of Fairfax, labourer, for Horse-stealing; William Ware, late of the county of Goochland, labourer, for Horse-stealing (pardoned); James Vance, late of the Parish of ——— in the County of Amherst, labourer, for Horse-stealing (pardoned); Henry Chiles Terrell, late of the parish of ——— in the County of Caroline, labourer, for Horse-stealing (pardoned; William Ton, *alias* John Wilson, late of the County of Greensville, labourer, for Horse-stealing (pardoned); James Irvine, late of the County of Henrico, labourer, for Horse-stealing (pardoned); James Scott, late of the County of Orange, labourer, for Murder; Levy Smith, *alias* Stackhouse, late of the County of Frederick, labourer, for Highway Robbery; Thomas Hunt, late of the county of Dinwiddie, for Burglary (pardoned); John Bolling, late of the County of Prince George, labourer, for Burglary (pardoned).

October 28th WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Col. Davies' resignation of the office of notary public

As it will be impracticable for me to execute the business of Notary Public at Petersburg during the time I am employed in the public service, I submit it to your Excellency whether it will not be necessary to appoint a person for that purpose in my stead.*

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*Accompanying the letter of Col. Davis is an application of George Hay and a recommendation of Sam'l Davies.

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J. AMBLER (TREASURER) TO HONO'B'L. BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. 1788.

Sir: October 28th

At the desire of the members of the Assembly, I furnished the amount of the Tobacco in the Treasury on the 23d inst., &c., &c. There are to the amount of about 1,900 Hhds. in the Treasury, including the Transfer. Treasurer's report of tobacco

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HOLT RICHESON TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH, October 28th

Informs him that there is a judgment against him (Richeson) for the whole of the taxes (of the County of King William) for '86, when it ought to be against Mr. Hickman, and then Mr. Spiller and myself been equally bound to Mr. Hickman. I therefore hope your Excellency and your Hono'able Board will have it put wright, &c.

JOSEPH LATIL (FOR BEAUMARCHAIS) TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH, October 30th
ENCLOSING PETITION AND AC. CURRENT OF BEAUMARCHAIS & CHEVALLIE.

Sir:

I have the honor of inclosing you a petition respecting Mr. De Beaumarchais' claim, which I beg your Excellency will lay before the Honorable Council, with a request that the nature of the facts exposed may be taken into particular consideration. Objects to the price of 20l. allowed for the Tobacco. Thinks Mr. De Beaumarchais must not suffer by the distinction between himself and the conduct of the Board in favor of Mr. Chevallie. Objects to the Solicitor-Genral's method of settling the interest upon the foreign claim, and demands that the amount of the Cannon will be now settled, &c.

IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES THE 30TH OF OCTOBER, 1788. October 31st

Resolved, That the Governor and Council be desired to lay before the General Assembly their Journal and proceedings.

Agreed to by the Senate Oct. 31:

In the House of Delegates, Friday, the 31st of October, 1788: The House, according to the Order of the Day, proceeded, by joint Ballot with the Senate, to the Election of five Delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress, from the first Monday in November till the first Wednesday in March next. And the members having prepared Tickets

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1788. October 31st

with the names of the persons to be appointed, and deposited the same in the Ballot glasses, Mr. Richard Lee, Mr. Henry, Mr. Bland, Mr. Richard Bland Lee, Mr, Thornton, Mr. David Stuart, Mr. Broadhead, and Mr. Kennon were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the Conference Chamber, and jointly with them to examine the Ballot glasses and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew, and after some time returned into the House and reported that they had, according to Order, met a committee from the Senate in the Conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the Ballot glasses and found a majority of Votes in favor of Cyrus Griffin, John Brown, James Madison, John Dawson, and Mann Page, Esquires.

November 1st

PETITION OF JAMES IRVAN, LATE OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,

Horse-stealing

Under sentance of Death in Richmond Prison. Prays for pardon on the ground that he served during the whole American contest as a Serg't in the Continental line, &c.

November 1st

A TALK FROM THE HEAD MEN AND WARRIORS OF THE CHEROKEY,

Talk of Cherokee Indians

Now met at their beloved Town of ———, 1st November, 1788, addressed to Congress, likewise their Elder Brother, the Governor of Virginia, in answer to a talk sent by him to us [them], say that in former days the Town of Chote was the place where all good Talks was held, and all paths then was kept clear and bright. Profess much friendship for their white Brothers. Rely on the promise made them, that the bad white people shall not settle on their lands or interfere with there hunting grounds, and as a token of peace and friendship they enclose a string of White Wampum, &c., &c., &c.

Present: the Bagger, The Crane, Kellygeshee, The Jobber's son, Bloody Fellow, pumpkin vine, The Yallow Bird, The Bare-coming-out-of-the-Tree, The Hanging Man, Chesnut, The Englishman, the rising Faughn.

November 1st

JUDGES P. CARRINGTON, PETER LYONS, AND WM. FLEMING, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Judges of general court recommend to mercy

Recommending to Executive mercy Henry Chiles Terrel, John Bolling, and Thomas Hunt, culprits, sentenced to death at the last session of the General Court. They say that if youth should be thought a sufficient ground for mercy, they have some claim for it, as they are not only young, but also because confessions were obtained from them on suggestions and

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hopes of being discharged from prosecutions, which were afterwards used as evidence against them, and we can add they appeared to be penitent and to have great remorse for their transgressions. They also say we are likewise inclined to think that the case of James Scott, of Orange, who was also convicted of murder, merits some consideration. In conclusion, they say: We enclose a list of the criminals convicted, and have the honor to be, Sir:

1788. November 1st

Your Excellency's very h'ble Serv'ts.

THE PETITION OF JAMES BANKS AND WILLIAM HAMM, November 3d

In the double capacity of Masters and Pilots of the State Boats, beg leave to represent to the Hon'ble, the Counsel of Virginia, that their pay is insufficient to maintain them, and is not adequate to the pay of the other officers, the whole charge of said vessels being upon them on a cruise and in Port. They say that from the beginning of the late war they have been in the service, and hope for an additional pay, &c.

A'W DUNSCOMB TO THE GOVERNOR, IN COUNCIL. November 3d

Requests him to cause to be remitted a fine which had been imposed upon himself and clerks for non-attendace at Militia Musters.

THOMAS ROWE, November 3d

High Sheriff for the County of King and Queen, for the year 1785, prays the Hon'ble Executive for leave to discharge the 6 per cent. interest due upon the Tax for the s'd County in the said year, by paying two-thirds of the said Interest in indents, and the balance in specie, the manner in which the said tax was itself payable.

A. BLAIR (CLERK OF THE COUNCIL) TO THE CLERK OF GREENSVILE. November 3d

Informs him that in the late recommendation of persons to be added to the commission of the peace, it did not appear that a majority of the acting justices were present when the recommendation was made. This information is given so that a recommendation may be made conformable to the rule of the board.

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1788. PETITION OF SUNDRY INHABITANTS OF THE COUNTY OF CAROLINE,

November 3d. Petition for the pardon of Chiles Terrell

Praying for the pardon of Chiles Terrell, late of the said county, who had been sentenced by the General Court to suffer death for the offence of Horse-Stealing; that he is just of age and out of his apprenticeship, which he served with Mr. John G. Woolfolk faithfully and honestly. Was seduced by a certain George Bird, who was considered by the Court of Caroline as an abettor in the act for which the said Terrel is condemned, &c.; also recommendation of the venire who found Chiles Terrel guilty of Horse-Stealing, that he be pardoned, &c.

November 4th. CHAS. THOMSON, SECRETARY OF CONGRESS, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Office of Secretary of Congress.

Sir:

Journal of congress from 20th of August to end of the Federal year, transmitted by Charles Thomson, Secretary of Congress

I have now the honor to transmit to your Excellency, herewith enclosed, two copies of the Journal of Congress, from the 20th of August to the end of the federal year, one for the Executive, the other for the legislative department of government. As a few months more will close the Journal of the United States in Congress Assembled, and the proceedings of last year would make but a small volume, I mean to include both in one and defer binding up the volume till the first of March next, at which time proceedings will commence under the new Constitution.

With great respect, I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant.

November 4th. JOHN EDWARDS, C. B. C., TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Bourbon county, Kentucky

I have the honour to inclose you a coppy of Govern'r St. Clair's Letter, which will give you an Idea of the State of our Fronteers with respect to the Indians. His opinion of their hostile intentions is verified in three horrid murders by them lately Committed in this County. Notwithstanding this, I have not caled more than five rangers into service, as I wish to bear in mind the Œconomy necessary in the management of publick money. But our county being so situated that a large extent thereof is fronteers, I shall be under the Necessity of ordering out a few scouts, unless hostilities should decrease. I believe Judge Simmses attempts to settle his purchase between the Miamis and not yet having effected it has rather increased the hostile Disposition of the Savages, and will, I fear, increase our calamities. Our officers that compose the Board

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1788. November 4th

is so scattered that we never have been able to get them collected since las' Spring so as to make a full Board.

I have in a concise manner given your Excellency an Idea of our Danger, and shall delay every further expense but what the most pressing necessity obliges me to until I receive further Instructions from the Executive, whose preceding contract has been productive of the most salutary effects in this District.

I am, Sir, Your Most Obediant Servant.

The inclosed letter of Gov. St. Clair is as follows:

FORT HARMAR, October 12th, 1788.

General A. St. Clair's letter

Dear Sir:

Ever since you left this place we have been in the daily expectation of seeing the Indians, or having intellegence that they would not be here, but to this moment we are in a state of uncertainty. The last account from the messengers are of the thirtieth of August. The six nations were then come to the mouth of the Miami, or Town River, and were to be met there by the Western Nations. What they have been about or what has been the result of their Councils we know nothing of, and I am persuaded they have interrupted the communication, or these men certainly have sent in again. Two men who I sent out since are also detained—at least they are now ten days beyound time in which one of them was to have returned. From these circumstances there is, in my opinion, too much reason to fear they have hostile designs, and that the first intimation of it will be a stroke upon some of the Settlements. Under these circumstances I find miself in a disagreeable predicament. I have had no reply from Virginia to the Application made to the Governor, which you was so obliging as to take the care of forwarding, and which I also sent by post; nor from Pensylvania, except that my letter had been laid before the Legislature; and the instructions of congress are express to avoid Hostilities by every possible means, and should they now appear to be inevitable, the season is advancing so fast that operations could scarce be carried on perpose. It is intolerably embarrassing. The stroke, if it falls at all, will probably fall on your country, and you should be prepared to resist it, and that preparation may render more general measures practicable. This is all I can say at present. I look every moment for intelligence, having also dispatched some indians, who should return in two days. Whatever it may be, I will take the first favorable opportunity to communicate it, and yet promise myself the pleasure to pay you a visit before the winter sets in.

Six Nations at the mouth of the Miami

Two men sent out as scouts detained

Fears hostile designs

No reply from Virginia nor from Pennsylvania

Instructions of Congress to avoid hostilities if possible

With great respect and esteem,

I am, Dear Sir, your Most obedient servant,

A. ST. CLAIR.

The honourable Mr. Brown, Danville.

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1788. L. WOOD, SOLICITOR,

November 4th — Statement of amount due to the Commonwealth of Virginia for the Revenue Tax of 1785, from Jonathan Patterson, Esq., Sheriff of Lunenburg.

November 4th — GOVERNOR RANDOLPH TO MR. BLAIR.

Mr. Blair is requested to lodge in the archives of the Executive the following state of public furniture, &c. :

1. All the wooden furniture remains unimpaired.

2. Not a particle of linen or woolen manufactures was delivered to me.

3. Nothing of china or glass, except half a dozen wine glasses, a whole plate or two, and a mass of broken china and glass; the last remain. The wine-glasses and plates are no more.

4. I never received any money for the purchase of linen or aught else.

EDM. RANDOLPH.

November 4th Richmond Captain Coleman's request for leave of absence — CAPT. SAM. COLEMAN, A. C. C., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Want of health renders him utterly unfit for business—asks indulgence for eight or ten days, to try the effect of a journey up the Country, &c.

November 4th — QUALIFICATION OF ANDREW MOORE, ESQ.,

Henrico county — As a member of the Council of State, before John Harvie, Esq.

November 6th — JOS. CARRINGTON, ROBERT ANDERSON AND JOHN LEE,

Deputies for Maurice Langhorne, Sheriff of Cumberland County, represent that the Legislature having taken under consideration the cases of several sheriffs, delinquents, and given a further time for the payment of judgments and executions against them, and the Executive having suspended until the tenth instant the execution issued against the said Maurice Langhorne, the petitioners pray that the execution aforesaid may be suspended until the Hon'ble Assembly decide on the propriety or impropriety of the petition before them.

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PETITION OF WILLIAM AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON, 1788.

Late Sheriff of Westmoreland, sheweth, your petitioner was high Sheriff of the County of Westmoreland in the year 1785 and 1786. The taxes for the year 1785 have been paid up, but the balance of the taxes for ye year 1786 still remain unpaid; that a sale of petitioner's property was advertized, and no purchasers appeared. November 7th

Your petitioner solicits relief for the following reasons: The burthen of the taxes for ye year 1786 were so very heavy that the people really had it not in their power to pay. The People were frequently distressed. Sales advertized, and no purchasers appeared. The monies due were, and are, actually in possession of the people, but the present crop will enable them to pay up with ease. The county of Westmoreland has always been prompt in payment of taxes. Errors exist in the tax list which cannot be corrected until a court shall be held for Westmoreland county, &c. Enclosed in the above petition is the following letter from Richard Henry Lee to Governor Randolph:

CHANTILLY, Oct. 16, 1788.

Sir:

I have the honor to address your Excellency upon a subject that I think much deserves your indulgence, if, as some judge, the Executive have a right to indulge in such cases. It is, Sir, the case of a revenue execution obtained against William Augustine Washington, Esq., late high Sheriff of this county for a large sum, and the gentleman's effects for want of buyers could not be sold. I believe, Sir, the truth is, that the Under Sheriffs, who are universally reputed men of industry, attention and honesty, have, from the necessity of the case, been obliged to indulge the people who, for want of money and means to pay, could not discharge the taxes, nor would their effects have sold if taken for the same reason. An attention to the public receipts will shew, I trust, that until lately this county has been among the most exact payers of the public taxes. It is therefore presumable that the present backwardness is occasioned not by unwillingness but by incapacity. Mr. Washington has not yet availed himself of the remedy given him by law against his deputies, because he relied on their exertions to be ready in season to discharge the debt; hitherto they have failed, but the strongest reasons exist to induce a belief that the crop now coming in will enable them to pay this demand, and at all events Mr. Washington will deliver his own effects to sale, if they, his deputies, fail, and his effects are ample and far more than sufficient to satisfy this execution; but his means of doing this will be greatly aided by a large and plentiful crop now getting in. From a consideration of these facts, if a small indulgence can be shewn to Mr. Washington, your Excellency and the honorable council will have an opportunity of gratifying the goodness of your own dispositions, and at the same time of preventing a very great Oppression from falling on a worthy gentleman,

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1788. November 7th whilst the public revenue will not be injured, but suspended only for a short time.

I have the honor to be,

With every sentiment of respectful esteem and regard,

Your Excellencie's most obedient and very humble servant.

November 7th

To His Excellency the Governor and the Hon'ble the Council of Virginia.

Lead Mines

The Memorial of Edmund Pendleton and Peter Lyons, surviving adm'rs of the Estate of John Robinson, Esq., deceased, humbly represent in behalf of themselves and others, Proprietors of the Lead mine, that in the latter end of the year 1775 that mine was taken possession of and occupied by government for the purpose of casting Lead for the use of the Commonwealth and the United States (to whom great quantities were sold and charged by this State), and such occupation continued until after the peace in 1783, to the great emolument of the Public. That an act of Assembly was passed in October, 1776, authorizing Government to agree with the Proprietors for an annual Rent to be paid for the use of the said Mines, which, however, was never done, y'r memorialists, who chiefly acted, being strangers to the value, but it was agreed that a reasonable rent should be paid.

That after the Peace y'r memorialists agreed to rent the mines for two hundred pounds specie a year, when they presume Lead was not so valuable as in the time of the War; [they therefore] claim an annual Rent considerably beyond that sum, but refer to Charles Lynch, Esq'r, who can ascertain the commencement and end of the Public Tenure, as well as what will be a reasonable Rent. That said John Robinson being greatly in advance for carrying on the mines, for repayment of which they were pledged by the Original Articles of Copartnership, y'r memorialists are entitled to receive the rents towards such repayment. They therefore hope you will have the Rent ascertained in such mode as will be Equitable and just, and order the amount thereof to be paid to them.

EDM'D PENDLETON,
PET'R LYONS.

November 7th

Petition of John Greenlee,

Sheriff of Rockbridge county, to the Governor and Council, asking relief from a judgment recovered and execution issued for falure to pay Revenue taxes.

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JOSEPH JONES TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH, 1788.

Requesting him to remit a fine of One hundred Pounds, imposed on him for an assault on Richard Hanson. Enclosed in Mr. Jones' letter is a communication from Braddox Goodwin to the Governor, requesting him to remit a fine of twenty-five pounds, imposed on him for aiding Jones in his assault on Hanson. November 7th Jones and Hanson Goodwin and Hanson

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IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, November 8th

Saturday, 8th of Nov'r, 1788, The House proceeded by joint Ballot with the Senate to the choice of two Senators to represent this Commonwealth in the Congress of the United States, pursuant to the constitution of Government for the United States. Mr. Page, Mr. Henry, Mr. Zachariah Johnson, Mr. Monroe, Mr. Turberville, Mr. Bullit, Mr. King, Mr. Selden, Mr. Carrington, and Mr. Corbin, a committee on the part of the House, after conference with a committee on the part of the Senate, found a majority of the votes of both Houses in favor of Richard Henry Lee and William Grayson, Esquires. Richard Henry Lee and William Grayson elected Senator

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JOHN CAMPBELL TO THE GOVERNOR. November 8th

Informs him that on the 25th of October an unexpected visitor, Colonel John Connolly, his son, a young French Man, named Campo, and four others, with a few of our people, Prisoners from Detroit, through the Indian country, made his appearance here. The ostensible reason of his coming is to enquire about his confiscated property at this place. May expect also to learn something of our situation and other matters which he may judge would be useful in case of another war. He informs that the British are now treating with the Indians at the Rapids of Miami. Maj. Wm. Croghan can, by word, give you information of many particulars. The military opposite do not seem to be pleased at his being here, and some others. Rapids of Ohio

Your Excellencie's most obed't, Humb. Serv't.

WM. ROSE, KEEPER OF THE PUBLIC JAIL, November 10th

Informs the Governor that William Crittenden, who escaped from the Canal, on which he had been sentenced to labour, had been apprehended in Louisa County and delivered to him for safe-keeping.

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1788. PETITION

November 10th — In favour of Wm. Ware, and Petitions in favour of other criminals, condemned at the late term of the General Court.

November 11th — ANDR'W LIMONIN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Havre de Grace Bust of Lafayette

Most Honored Sir:

Agreeable to the orders of his Excellency, Thom's Jefferson, Ambassador of the United —— of America, at the Court of Versailles, I have consigned to your Excellency, on board the American Ship, the Sally, Kennedy, Master, bound for Baltimore, a large box, containing Marquis LaFayette's Bust, For which I enclose the Bill of Lading. I don't doubt your Excellency hath long ago received hint about it. Your Excellency will be pleased to give proper orders for the forwardness of that Bust.

I have the honor to be, with the highest regard,

Your Excellency's most obedient and very Humble Servant.

November 13th — PETITION OF PETER WILLIAMS,

Security for Messrs. Charles Gee and Lemuel peebles to William Call, Esq., Sh'f of Prince George, for the faithful performance of the said Gee and Peebles as his under Sh'fs. That on account of the delinquences of said under Sh'fs, judgment was entered up in the General court against the said Call for the sum so delinquent, and your petitioner's estate offered for sale, but not sold for want of bidders. Your Petitioner therefore prays that the Damages and interest may be remitted and the ex'on suspended until collection can be made from the people.

November 13th — GEN'L CLARK

Having signified to me, in his letter of the 21st of October last, his determination to resign his appointment as surveyor for the State line, and it having from thence become necessary that the Superintendants for that line should, as soon as possible, proceed to the appointment of a surveyor to succeed Gen'l Clark, and my local situation rendering it impossible for me to attend a meeting of the Superintendants, I am, therefore, induced to take this method of signifying my wish and giving my vote for a surveyor as above. I, therefore, hereby declare that I think Maj'r Croghan, from his thorough acquaintance with the business, and his known attention to

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it, is the fittest person to succeed Gen'l Clark as surveyor to the State line, and I vote for him accordingly. 1788. November 13th

Given under my hand this 13th of November, 1788.

GEORGE MUTER,
Super't for the State Line.

T. Marshall and H. Marshall, Super'ts, also vote for Maj. Croghan.

PETITION OF PHEBE CONWAY, WIFE OF CORNELIUS CONWAY, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH, November 13th

Represents that her husband was apprehended on suspicion of stealing a Negro man from the State of Maryland, and carried from the county of Berkeley, where he had been a resident for a number of years, to the town of Winchester; that after lying in the Goal of Frederick County for some time he was removed to the town of Martinsburg, from whence he was sent by a Magistrate of Berkley to Maryland and confined in the Goal of Charles Co'ty; that after six months' imprisonment he was condemned to death, which punishment was changed to a seven years' slavery.

The Petitioner, believing her husband innocent, and being informed that the proceedings against her Husband have been contrary to Law and the rights of the subjects of this State, prays his Excellency's interposition in behalf of her husband, &c.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE TO GOVERNOR EDMUND RANDOLPH. November 13th

Sir:

We should offer a violence to our feelings if we affected to meet with Indifference the period which separates you from us in the administration of the Government. Associated with you in office, we have been witnesses of the uncommon application with which your known abilities were directed to the execution of its duties, and while this has excited our esteem and admiration, your uniform patience, politeness and candor in the discussions of the board have procured our cordial affection. Need we add, then, that we sincerely wish you the enjoyment of that tranquil, domestic felicity, which is, in some measure, the consequence, and always the best reward of a well-spent public life.

We have the honor to be, &c.

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1788. GEO. CLENDENEN TO GOV. RANDOLPH,

November 13th Richmond. Encloses to the Governor and Council the pay-Roll of Wm. Clendenin, late Captain of the Company of Rangers in the County of Greenbrier, was under the necessity of Garrisoning the Rangers one hundred miles from the principle part of the Inhabitants of the County of Greenbrier, through means of which both the counties of Greenbrier and Montgomery have been effectually protected. Since the Scouts and Rangers have been in service none of the savages have been able to get into our settlements, except a white man and an Indian. They killed Thomas Griffey, were pursued, and the white man killed. Three other Indians approached the settlements, were discovered, and pursued beyond the Ohio. Finds to his Mortification that there is no money in the funds to pay the sums due to the Scouts and Rangers, or for the supplies or Rations which have been furnished. Failure to discharge these obligations will destroy the remains of public credit, and abolish that very salutary sistem of Scouts and Rangers, which has afforded more substantial Protection and Relief to our Frontier Counties than Campaigns that have cost the State many thousand pounds, &c.

November 14th WILLIAM MCCLINTICK, OF BOTTETOURT COUNTY,

Was recommended by the county court of Botettourt in 1786 to the Governor and Council as an object deserving to be placed on the Pension list, having been badly wounded in the Guilford Battle, North Carolina. Affidavit of witnesses as to death of said McClintick and that he was the person wounded at the Battle of Guildford, made November 14th, 1788.

November 16th GEORGE CLENDENIN TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Richmond. States that after Mr. Griffith was killed, near Greenbrier County Court House, by an Indian and white man, Capt. James Graham, who lived near the place of the murder, applied to Col. Ward for relief, who ordered him to send out two scouts when Clendenin arrived at home from the Kanawha. Col. Ward informed [him] of the steps he had taken, and was informed that but four scouts were allowed, but that from the eminent danger we ware in and the extent of our Territory or frontier we ware compelled to protect and defend, that the Executive would probably augment the number. Did not conceive himself authorized to certify the services of the scouts appointed by Col. Ward.

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EDMUND RANDOLPH, GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA, TO THE HON'BLE THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE. 1788.

Gentlemen:

No event of my life has ever brought more cordial satisfaction with it than your friendly letter. It holds this prominence in my judgment because it results, as you are pleased to tell me, from your observation of my conduct. I shall not dissemble that my emancipation from public office was diminished in its joy by the regret which I felt at a separation from my associates—a regret founded upon a confidence that with them I could have acted in harmony and honor to any length of service. You will, therefore, believe that in any circumstances I shall consider your approbation as a testimonial the most dignified. November 17th

I have the honor, gentlemen, to be, with every sentiment of the most Respectful esteem,

Your most Obedient Servant.

L. WOOD, V. SOLICITOR, TO HON'BLE BEVERLEY RANDOLPH, LIEUT.-GOVERNOR. November 17th

Sir:

Agreeable to request of Council, you will please receive enclosed a full state of Mr. Beaumarchais' Account, whereby it appears the cannon is not included, &c. Richmond Solicitor's office

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L. WOOD, V. SOLICITOR, November 17th

Requests an order to the Auditor for a warrant of thirty pounds upon Acc't to defray expenses in giving notices previous to the last as well as the approaching General Court.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COURT OF LINCOLN COUNTY, KENTUCKY, November 18th

in the months of March, August, and November, 1788, against certain inhabitants for refusing to give in lists of their taxable property upon Oath.

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1788. CERTIFICATE OF GEN'L HENRY LEE,

November 19th Alexandria. That William Peak, of Fairfax county, enlisted in the Troop of horse under my command in June, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, Reënlisted for the war in January, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, and was appointed a Quarter Master's Sergeant; was wounded and captured; after his release appointed a cornet and Quarter Master; resigned in 1779, and in 1781 joined Col. Lee's corps in South Carolina, and acted as commissary and Quarter Master in the Southern Army to the conclusion of the war, &c.

November 19th IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, 19TH OF NOVEMBER, 1788.

Resolved, That the Executive be requested to make known, by proclamation, the times and places for appointing Electors to choose a president and for choosing Representatives to serve this State in Congress, and that they cause five hundred copies of the Act intituled "An act for the election of Representatives, pursuant to the Constitution of Government of the United States," to be printed and transmited to the Sheriffs of the Several Counties within this Commonwealth with all possible expedition.

Teste:

JOHN BECKLEY,
C'lk H. D.

1788, Nov. 22d. Agreed to by the Senate.

H. BROOKE, *C. S.*

November 20th WM. MCGUIRE TO GEN'L WM. WOOD,

Williamsburg. Requesting him to inform the Governor and Council that he had resigned his office as sercher for the district of Winchester, and enquires as to the probability of Mr. ——— success in his application as Master of the Randolph academy.

November 21st PETITIONS OF THOMAS PITZER, GEO. BROWN, AND JAMES CUNNINGHAM, OF BOTETOURT COUNTY, TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

Asking to be relieved from a forfeiture incurred by them in consequence of a breech of the peace committed by the said Pitzer.

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PETITION OF WILLIAM CRITTINGTON TO THE VICE-GOVERNOR AND THE COUNCIL. 1788.

That your Petitioner was condemned to the works of this City in the year 1786 for five years, two of which he served faithfully. Asks to be pardoned for the Residue of his time, &c.

PETITION OF DUNCAN MCLAUCHLAN, TO THE LIEUT.-GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA. November 22d

Sheweth that your pettitioner as Atto. in fact for the Representatives of Andrew Sprowell, dec'd, hath, in conformity to an order to your Board, made application to the Auditor, who refered him to Chas. Lynch, respecting the hyre of Mr. Sprewel's negroes from the 1st of Dec'r, 1783, to the 28th of August, 1789. Your petitioner, therefore requests that youle be pleased to grant warrants for the £51, accounted for by Mr. Lynch, and for the sums of sixty pounds six shillings and eight pence, as the hire for the time not accounted for by him, because the slaves were not in his service, but were in the service of the State. Richmond

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ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQ., TO LIEUT.-GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH, November 22d

Recommending the release of David Lock from his confinement in the public Jail at Richmond, for the reason that his health has been seriously impaired by confinement; that he was intoxicated at the time when seduced to become an accomplice in the crime for which he suffers. Is very young and artless. Made so candid a confession that the person robbed recovered his property. His confinement has been about nine months, and death seems to await him if it be continued. Hopes he is penitent. Encloses two letters from David Lock, and submits the matter to the greatly superor judgment of your Hon'ble body, &c.

PETITION OF WM. WALLIS TO THE VICE-GOVERNOR AND THE PRIVY COUNCIL. November 24th

Petitioner was found guilty of horse-stealing and condemned to death. Is an entire stranger, and consequently no friend to intercede in his behalf. Served under General Wayne in the Pennsylvania line, and was a faithful soldier. Appeals to the compassion of the Executive and prays for Pardon.

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1788. RICH'D TAYLOR TO LIEUT.-GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

November 24th Hampton — Mr. Barron, in the Liberty, detected a small flat at Alexandria landing one Hogshead of Rum; got of 4 others before they were discovered. Mr. Barron, with consent of owner, sold the the flat at public sale for £10. The Rum, containing 110 Galls., he brough here with him, half of which I have divided among the Crew, as captors, the Bal. shall apply to the use of Boats. Request you'l inform me weather I shall purchase any Pork this season to salt up for boats. It is my opinion it will be as cheap to purchase it in Bar'ls as we want it. The Boat Liberty sets of for her station up Potomack to-morrow.

November 26th DAVID SHEPPERD (C'Y LIEUT.) TO GOVERNOR EDMOND RANDOLPH.

Ohio county — Received a letter from General Sinclere. As for raising men under his order I could not understand, except I had received special orders from your Excellency for that purpose. From the best information that I can get, there is a large body of Indians Collected at the Fawls of Miskingom, under the pretence of a treaty, with the great Warrior Brant at their head. If the treaty should fawl through, the settlement must certainly suffer. If it is favourable, then will return in peace.

Received the arms and ammunition allotted for our county. Have sent all the accompts relating to the Rangers and Spies that hath been in actual service This season, by the bearer, Capt. McMaghan. I hope the pay for the men and Provitions may be sent by the bearer, as I stand Responsible for the same, and if not paid off would prevent, in future, the raising of either men or provitions on the faith of Government, and be injurious to myself.

November 26th IN COUNCIL.

Colo. Merewether requested to know the terms on which the Printers will strike 500 copies of each of the acts for the appointment of Electors to choose a President and for choosing representatives to serve this State in Congress; reports their terms as follows: "Mr. Dixon, 15 dollars; Mr. Davis, £15; Mr. Nicholson, £7 for the longest act, and £5 for the Other."

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IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES THE 24TH OF NOVEMBER, 1788. 1788.

Mr. Richard Lee reported as follows: It appears to your committee that in the year 1780 the General Assembly of this State voted, as well to the Petitioner, Tarlton Woodson, as to several other Officers of the Virginia line, then prisoners of War on Long Island, the quantity of five thousand pounds of Tobacco each for their Relief. That in consequence thereof the Petitioner [Tarlton Woodson], about the month of February, in the year 1781, received notes for the said Quantity of Tobacco at Bray's Warehouse, on Rappahannock river, and for obtaining those supplies and necessaries which he stood so much in need of, upon his being exchanged disposed of them to a merchant for the same. That some time afterwards the said notes were returned to the Petitioner because the Tobaccoes were not to be found in the said Warehouses, in consequence of which the Petitioner was compelled to discharge the amount of his dealings with the said Merchant in actual specie. Referred to the Executive for settlement and to the Auditor for payment. November 26th

November 26th, Agreed to by the Senate.

FRANCIS CORBIN TO LIEUT.-GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH. November 27th

Encloses a letter from Geo. B. Davis, Searcher at Urbanna, Rappahannock, resigning his office, and recommending as his successor his Brother, Mr. Staige Davis. Mr. Corbin seconds this request from public considerations. Urbanna searcher

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THE DEPOSITIONS OF MR. CHARLES HUNT AND MR. MATTHEW, OF THE CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG, November 27th

Were taken by me in presence of Dudley Digges and Samuel Griffin, Gent., Justices of James City county; and the said William James Lewis, agreeable to notice given him by the Deponents, likewise attended. The aforesaid Deponents consider themselves as the prosecutors, of which I do certify the Governor and hon'ble privy Council. James City county

BEN. WALLER,
Clerk of J's C'ty Court.

ROBERT GILCHRIST TO ANTHONY NEW, ESQ., November 27th

Recommending that a pension be granted to Patty Rose, of the County of Caroline, widow of Reuben Rose, who belonged to Capt. Richard Stevens' Company in the tenth Virginia Regiment, and died in the service of the United States, on the Delaware, in 1777.

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1788. IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, TUESDAY, THE 25TH OF NOVEMBER, 1788.

November 27th *Resolved*, That the Application agreed to by the General Assembly to be made to the Congress of the United States be fairly engrossed upon parchment, signed by the Speakers of the two Houses, and transmitted by the Executive to the new Congress as soon as they shall assemble.

Resolved, That copies of the Letter to Governor Clinton and of the Circular Letter to the several States, enclosing copies of the foregoing Application, be made out, signed by the Speakers of both Houses, and transmitted by the Executive without delay.

Teste: JOHN BECKLEY, *Clk. h. d.*

1788, November 27th. Agreed to by the Senate.

H. BROOKE, *C. S.*

November 28th IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY THE 28TH OF NOVEMBER, 1788:

Resolved, That the Executive be requested to procure the usual number of Copies of the Laws of the present Session of Assembly, to be printed with all possible dispatch, that the members of the General Assembly may be enabled to carry to each County its respective proportion, and that the Executive make such allowance for printing the same out of the salary of the Public Printer as they shall think reasonable. That the Executive be requested to lay before the Legislature a general statement of all the small arms, ammunition and accoutrements thereunto belonging, distinguishing those immediately fit for use and those that are not, together with an account of all the Ordnance and all other military apparatus belonging to this Commonwealth.

November 28th ALEXANDER DROMGOOLE TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Have heard that the Creeks and Cherokees have taken a station south of French broad river, which had seventy-odd souls in it, a number of which they put to immediate death. The Assembly of North Carolina, after considering whether they would carry a campai'n against the Cherokees or proceed to comply with the requisitions of Congress by choosing a commissioner to treat agreeable to their request, thought proper to comply with the requests of Congress, and have chosen Mr. John Steel, of this State, for that purpose.

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Mr. Dromgoole, appointed to deliver the talks to the different Tribes, Desires to serve the State of Virginia, and Governor Randolph in particular, for whose kind treatment to him while in Philadelphia, and when last in Richmond, he feels grateful. Informs the Governor that some malitious persons on Holston have endeavoured to injure his character, but the charges proved to be false and groundless. Offers to transact any business in the Indian Department, &c. 1788. November 28th

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J. HOLCOMBE, DEPUTY FOR THOMAS FLOURNOY, LATE SHERIFF OF PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY, TO HON'BLE BEVERLY RANDOLPH, ESQ. November 29th

The suspension of the Execution against Thomas Flournoy, Sheriff of Prince Edward County, for the Taxes of 1786, expires on the 20th of this month. Neither the Treasurer or Auditor will receive them without a return from the Clerk of the County, which there has not been time to obtain. He asks a further suspension until the General Assembly, which has before it a bill on the subject, shall reach a conclusion.

JOHN GUERRANT, JUN., LT.-COLO. OF THE GOOCHLAND BATTALLION, TO THE HON'LE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA. November 29th

Sir:

A court of Justices in the County of Goochland having, on the 17th day of this Instant, thought proper to recommend a certain William Radford, a private in the ranks of the Goochland Militia, to supply a vacancy Occasioned by the Resignation of Geo. Payne, Esq., late Colo. of the Goochland Battalion, thereby placing a man, without any pretensions to merit, over the heads of two field Officers, Twelve respectable Captains, and their subalterns in the said Battalion, who have all hitherto faithfully discharged their respective duties, without any imputation of misconduct, which strange and unaccountable proceeding tends not only to degrade the worthy officers of the Battalion, but also to preclude from Office very meritorious and worthy characters in the County. Under these impressions I am induced, in behalf of my constituents as well as of myself, to make known to the Hon'e Executive Council the Impropriety of such appointment. My respect for the Judiciary shall, however, restrain me from passing any censures at present upon the obvious motive which actuated Gentlemen upon this Occasion; permit me only to Observe, Sir, that it was a preconcerted combination in a few of the members assembled on this Occasion. I hope it will not be presuming in me to observe that the probable consequences resulting from such appointments may tend ultimately to subvert the principles of Justice as well as the Spirit of Military Arrangements. To obviate any probable suspecion that I am actuated by mere motives of Ambition, Only permit me to assure you,

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1788. November 29th

Sir, that so far as this matter respected myself I had resolved, against the dictates of my own heart, to submit to the recommendation, lest a contrary conduct might incur the Imputation of Disrespect to that Authority whose dignity I have ever most ardently supported, but upon being informed of the manner in which this project was concerted and carried into effect, and the consequent disapprobation of the people whom I have the Honor to represent, I flatter myself I shall stand excused, Sir, in making this communication to you. Earnestly requesting that you may be pleased to lay the same before your Hon'e Board, in full confidence that they will take such measures therein as are consistent with Justice and propriety,

I am, Sir, with very great Respect,

Your most Obed't Servant.

November 29th

A. RICHARDSON, TO HON'BLE BEVERLY RANDOLPH IN COUNCIL,

States that he was successively employed by Messrs. Aylett, Smith and Day, late Commercial Agents for this State at the ports of Suffolk and South Quay; that under the agency of Major Day he advanced sums of money for which he has never been compensated, as appears by Mr. Day's certificate on the face of his Acc't No. 1, and that he has not received any satisfaction for wages for one year under his agency. As he does not wish anything more than just compensation and the return of money advanced his Country ten years ago, he flatters himself the Hon'ble Board will see the justice of his claim, agreeable to Acc't No. 2. The assembly declined to act on his case, the Executive being empowered, by a law passed the last Assembly to provide for the support of Civil Government and the gradual redemption of all debts due by this Commonwealth, to settle the claim, &c.

November 31st

JOSEPH LIPLONG TO BEVERLY RANDOLPH, ESQ.

Asks for 15s. per day for riding express for the public between Richmond and Cross Creek, 300 and odd miles, &c.

December 1st

CHARLOTTE COURT, 1ST DECEMBER, 1788.

William Dabbs, Jun., Gentleman, is nominated to the President and Professors of William and Mary College as a proper person to act as surveyor of the said County in the place of Thomas Reed, whose office as surveyor of the said county has become vacant under the law by his holding the Clerkship of the Court of the said County.

Copy: THOMAS READ, *C. C. C.*

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PETITION OF LEVI SMITH, WM. WALLIS, JAMES SCOTT, TO THE HONOURABLE VICE-GOVERNOR AND THE PRIVY COUNCIL, &C. 1788.

The humble petition of your unfortunate Prisoners, now lying under the dreadful sentence of Death, most Humbly begs that your Honours would be so gracious as to grant us another week, having a desire to spend a few more days in the service of god, Endeavouring most earnestly to prepare our souls for that awful day when we must bid this world adue and take our final dissolution, to appear before our supream judge on high, where we hope and trust that our souls will be received into Everlasting rest through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. This being granted, your Humble Petitioners will be in duty bound to pray till Death. December 1st

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PETITION OF JOSEPH JONES, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO THE LIEUT.-GOVERNOR AND COUNCILL, December 2d

Sheweth that the petitioner did by his partner, Joshua Campbell, furnish the troops of this commonwealth marching through Carolina, under command of Col. Parker, with a quantity of Pork, for which was obtained a rec't for the amo't, £150 Specie. The Auditor of Public Accounts granted an order for the same 17th June, 1782, which sum, nor any part thereof, has ever been paid; therefore prays payment, &c. Richmond

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MAJOR ROB. H. SAUNDERS TO THE HONB'L. LIEUT.-GOVERNOR. December 2d

Informs him that the court of Goochland county had, on the 17th of last month, recommended a certain Mr. William Radford, then a private in the Goochland militia, to supply a vacancy occasioned by the resignation of George Payne, Esq., late Colo. of that Battalion, Thereby to take command of Lieut.-Colo. John Guerrant and myself, against whom no imputation of misconduct has been alleged. Has heard no reason offered against the promotion of Col. Guerrant than that of his being a member of the Legislature. Deprive Col. Guerrant of his gradation, and it will not only fix an unjust stigma on him, but also on all his inferior officers. It will not be supposed that ambition alone is my object or prompts me to trouble the Executive with this remonstrance, but contempts like this is grating to the feelings of an officer, whose only reward is the approbation of that authority from which they derive their trust. Therefore hopes the Honourable Board will take this matter into serious consideration and make such arrangements as to them may seem just and right. Richmond

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1788. JOHN GUERRANT, JR., TO THE HON. LIEUT.-GOVERNOR, IN COUNCIL.

December 2d Richmond

Encloses copy of the Recommendation of the Goochland Court, and respectfully submits it to the consideration of the Hon'l. Board.

December 2d

J. AMBLER PRESENTS RESPECTS TO MR. RANDOLPH.

Can only send the rough books of sale [of public Tobacco]; for it has been impossible to make out a regular statement in one view in so short a time, continual applications being made by the purchasers to settle ever since the sales, besides our being engaged with the committee from the Assembly, and in the current duties of the office.

December 2d

IN THE MONTH OF MAY, 1779,

Depreciation of paper money in 1779

When Mr. Duncan Rose and myself were called on to estimate what additional allowance Mr. Richardson should have made to his pay, to compensate for the depreciation of the paper money at that period, we took for our guide and allowance the then Executive had made to Mr. Smith, which, as well as I recollect, was seven hundred and fifty pounds per annum, being one hundred and fifty per cent. on his first agreement. On this principle Mr. Richardson being then entitled to receive, by previous agreement, one hundred pounds per annum for those services, for which we allowed him the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds per annum.

JAMES KEMP.

City of Richmond, to-wit:

James Kemp came before me this day and made oath to the above. Given under my hand this 2d Dec'r, 1788.

DAVID LAMBERT.

December 3d

IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, 3D DECEMBER, 1788.

Petition of Richard Brooke, praying to be paid balance due him for a piece of Land taken from him in the year 1775 by the commissioners of the Gun Factory at Fredericksburg, for public use, with the papers and vouchers referred to the Executive, and that such an allowance be made him as shall appear just and reasonable.

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IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER THE 3D, 1788. 1788.

Resolved, That Colonel William Heth, for the dilligence, ability, and integrity which he manifested in the settlement of the claim of this State against the United States, for the North Western Territory Ceded to Congress, be allowed the farther sum of two hundred and forty-four pounds and two shillings, to be paid by order of the Executive in like manner with his former salary. December 3d

Teste: JOHN BECKLEY,
C'lk h. d.

December 6th. Agreed to by the Senate.

H. BROOKE, *C. S.*

BEVERLEY RANDOLPH, ESQ., December 3d

Chosen Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth for one year. Mr. Turberville, Mr. Monroe, Mr. William Cabell, Mr. Page, Mr. Bullitt, Mr. David Stuart, Mr. Kennon, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Strother, and Mr. Wilson Nicholas, a committee on the part of the House of Delegates, and Mr. Anderson, Mr. Cabell, and Mr. Page, a committee on the part of the Senate, appointed jointly to examine the ballot-boxes and report the result of the vote. Beverley Randolph chosen Governor

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THOMAS BARBOUR TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA. December 3d

Informs the Governor that he was sworn Sheriff in October Orange Court and obliged to give bond and security for the collection of the Ensuing Tax ; that Mr. Shepherd, the late Sheriff, claims the right to collect this same tax. To prevent further disputes desires to know whether the present or late Sheriff should collect it.

JOHN PENDLETON CERTIFIES, December 6th

That on the 6th day of December, 1788, he administered to his excellency, Beverley Randolph, Esq., the oaths required by law to be taken by the Governor or chief magistrate of the Commonwealth.

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1788. J. AMBLER PRESENTS RESPECTS TO THE GOVERNOR.

December 6th J. A. is sorry he could not sooner transmit a statement of the sales of the Public Tobacco. It has been an affair of great Intricacy and perplexity to J. Ambler. Will have some printed copies of the account struck, that all the members may have an opportunity of examining particularly into the business, and may see the heavy loss which the State suffers notwithstanding every effort to dispose of the Tobacco on the best possible terms.

December 6th PETITION OF THOMAS HARRIS,

Praying payment for his services whilst an Armorer in the City of Williamsburg during the late war, and for services in Fredericksburg afterwards, and enclosing vouchers for the same, and resolutions of the Senate and House of Delegates requesting the Executive to cause the Petitioner's claim to be settled, and the amount found due paid out of the contingent fund.

December 7th PETITION OF WM. WALLIS,

Condemned to death for horse-stealing, prays executive clemency because he was not engaged in the stealing, but found in the company of the real thief at the time of his capture.

December 8th GEORGE SLAUGHTER TO THOMAS JEFFERSON, GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

Louisville Inclosed are copies of letters from Capt. George, the Commanding Officer at Fort Jefferson, and Capt. Williams from the same place, to Col. Clarke; also an original letter sent me by Capt. Helms, by which you will learn the situation of affairs in that quarter. Such a number of the Officers leaving their Posts, and so many of the men deserting, together with the misconduct of the Commercial agent and the scarcity of provisions (the crews of two Boats loaded therewith having deserted and carried them off), that there is too much reason to fear the Post will be evacuated, I have therefore taken the liberty of ordering the Remains of the Country Store, together with a large Cargo which is now on its way from Orleans for the use of this State, to be brought hither. These reasons will, I hope,

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justify me, but when I inform your Excellency of the Numbers of Complaints ag'st Capt. George, both from Officers and men, of the shameful Misapplication of the goods in his care, and of the abuses committed by him in his department, You will think it prudent to prevent his wasting this, as there is too much reason to believe he did the former Cargoes. My men have never drawn anything from that store but cloaths, and thirty Blankets, drawn at Williams' Barge, are all the necessaries they have drawn since their Inlistment. They now have no shirts, Hats, Blankets, Breeches, not having drawn Cloath for that purpose, Shoes, Stockings, or Mockassons, so that they are totally unfit for duty. The Indians still are troublesome to us, having visited us four or five times since Col. Clark left this Place, and have killed and taken 5 or 6 men, and wounded three others. 1788. December 8th

I am, Sir, y'r very Hum. Serv't.

COL. WM. DAVIES TO THE HON. JAMES WOOD, ESQ. December 8th

Sir:

I cannot find time during the day to examine the journals of the Council, my time being then engrossed by the transaction of business with the Continental commissioner or his representatives. I would, therefore, beg permission to take to my lodging from time to time, as may be necessary, the journals and other documents I would wish to inspect, under such restrictions as the executive may think proper, as I shall find more leisure at night to inspect them than at any other time.

I am, Most Respectfully,

Your Very Obed't Serv't.

COL. T. MERIWETHER TO THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR. December 9th

In October the Executive were pleased to direct me to select from the list of Pensioners those whose pensions take effect at a distance of time from the ceasing of their pay or their discharge from the Army. My attempts to execute this Order have been ineffectual, there not being any papers in my possession that afford a precise knowledge in any case whatever. For instance, the case of Capt. Cowper: It appears that he was disabled in 1779 and pensioned in January, 1787, but the period that his pay ceased is a matter of meer conjecture. I conceived that Mr. Dunscomb was the only public character who could furnish me with certain information, and applied for his assistance, but never obtained it.

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1788. WM. ROSE, KEEPER OF THE PUBLIC JAIL, TO THE GOVERNOR.

December 9th. Reports the following Criminals for trial at the December General Court:

Richmond

Catherine Crull, Monongalia, Murder.
John Prater Walker, Prince George, Robbery.
Ephraim *al's* Elisha *al's* E. Willett, Spotsylv'a, Felony.
John Hufton, Nansemond, Murder.
Matthew Farley, Jun'r, Arthur Farley, Powhatan, Murder.
John Whitney, Henrico, Felony.
Daniel Woodson, Prince Edward, Ho. St'g.
William Jenkins, Dinwiddie, Ho. St'g.
Thomas Williamson, Henrico, Murder.
Obadiah Payne, Montgomery, Ho. St'g.
William Cri. Herndon, a pardoned felon, who fled from Labour.
Thomas boweles, Matthias Welsh, Loudon, Burg'y.
William Brown, Monongalia, Burg'y.

December 10th. ALEXANDER BARNETT, LIEUT. R. C., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Russell county. Encloses to his Excellency the proceedings of a court-martial for the tryal of James Gibson and Richard Thompson, under arrest for disobedience of Orders. At the trial of Gibson the Governor's Proclamation was laid before the Court-Martial and a unanimous judgment was given for his aquitance, without caution or admonition in my hearing, or one dissenter in opinion. Richard Thompson, Lieutenant Commandant of the ranging party on the frontier of this County, charged with disobedience of orders, was also acquited. Is at a loss to know what that said Court-martial founded their opinion upon, &c.

December 10th. JUDGES EDMUND PENDLETON AND PETER LYONS, ROBERTSON'S ADM'RS, TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR, AND HON'BLE, THE COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA.

WHEREAS, a memorial lately presented to y'r Hon'ble Board by the administrators of John Robinson, Esq., to be paid Rent for the use of the Lead mines occupied by the Public during the late war, was impeded by the claim of Mr. Charles Lynch to part of the said mines and Rent, concerning which a suit is now depending in the High Court of Chancery. We have, therefore, agreed that one-third part of the Rent due from the

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Public may be paid to Mr. Lynch, upon his entering into bond, with sufficient security, to perform the Decree of the High Court of Chancery respecting the same, and the remaining two-third parts to be paid to the said administrators, subject in like manner to the Decree of the said Court. We, therefore, jointly pray that the Hon'ble Board will resume the consideration of the said memorial and direct the money to be paid accordingly. 1788. December 10th

* EDMUND PENDLETON,
PETER LYONS,
Adm'rs.

Dec'r 10th, 1788.

CERTIFICATE OF JOHN SEK. WILLS December 11th

That a certain James Wallace *alias* Camble was taken up at the Town of Smithfield, in the County of Isle of Wight, on suspicion of Stealing. On the examination of the case it appeared that he was not guilty of the stealing, but was sent on for trial on acc't of his being found in company with the real thief and some of the goods found on him.

BENJ. BLAGROVE, JOHN COURTNEY, HUGH FRENCH AND BENJAMIN DAWSON, December 11th

Ministers of the Gospel, recommend to the Governor and Council Levi Smith, a criminal condemned to death, as an object worthy of clemency. They believe him a true and sincere penitent, and that if pardoned he would become a useful member of Society, &c.

PETITION OF JAMES SCOTT, December 11th

A criminal condemned to death for the murder of one James Johnston at the house of Thomas Brightwell, his neighbour. Scott had called at Brightwell's on his way home, and found Johnston there drinking. Johnston asked for a Room to himself in which he could lock himself in; Brightwell answered him in the negative; asked the distance to the next tavern—fifteen miles; said he believed he could get there that night, and left the house apparently for that purpose. Was discovered after sunset standing under the eves of the house, and afterwards under the eves of the corn-house, about ten steps distant. Called on by Brightwell to assist him, and a gun, said to be loaded only with powder, handed to him, and with which Johnston was shot, &c., &c. Prays a pardon.

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*This paper in the handwriting of Judge P.

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1788. MEMORIAL OF SIR JOHN PEYTON, SHERIFF OF GLOSTER COUNTY, TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

December 11th

Feels a reluctance in presenting this, but the cries of the widow and orphan work so powerfully upon the human mind that your Memorialist cannot but represent to the Hon'e Bord, that if the Publick Executions are carried into effect—from the great scarcity of cash, property now sells so much below its value—that the widow and orphans of John Fox, who was security to your memorialist's deputy sheriff, must be reduced to inevitable ruin, having already paid eight hundred pounds on a similar occasion. A considerable amount of the uncollected taxes were put into the hands of the deputies for the year 1788, who had agreed to collect them, but they were forbid to interfere in the collection thereof by the then high sheriff, who said there was no law authorizing such Collection. This not only prevented the collection by the deputies, but the people took the hint and would not pay up their arrears, saying no distress could be made on their property. Your memorialist has always had the good of his country much at heart; he has ever been ready to risk his life and fortune in support thereof. Your memorialist's wishes are only to get the balance of arrearage in the hands of the people collected. Therefore prays a further suspension, and promises to use every endeavour to facilitate the collection.

December 11th

TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA, IN COUNCIL.

The memorial of Elizabeth Dixon, relict of John Dixon, dec'd, represents that a judgment was recovered and execution issued against said Dixon in his life-time for the arrearage of Taxes to be collected in the year 1784, and your memorialist is informed that the Solicitor has given directions to proceed to sell the estate of the said John Dixon, dec'd. There being no representative as yet of the said John Dixon, who failed, on account of some defect in the bonds, to get judgment ag't the sureties of his deputies in Oct. last, and the deputies being insolvent, in the present scarcity of cash the estate of the said John Dixon will not be sufficient to discharge the arrears, and the family of the said John Dixon, his securities, and their families, reduced to unavoidable ruin if the execution is levied. The memorialist therefore prays a suspension of the execution until as much of the arrearages as possible may be gathered in.

December 12th

COL. WM. MCCLEERY TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

Monongalia county

At the instance, and by the special request of the inhabitants of this, Harrison and Randolph Counties, I am directed to lay before your Ex-

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1788. December 12th

cellency a state of those counties, so far as the inhabitants thereof may be affected by the operation of the late Orders of council, directing a fixed number of the militia of each of those counties to hold themselves in readiness, under certain regulations specified in such Orders, to march to the Ohio River, and there to be subject to the further direction of his Excellency, General Sinclair, and altho' I look upon all the acts of that hon'ble board as the result of Wisdom, and regulated by the strictest principalls of justice and impartiality, yet I hope you'll not deem it arrogant or impertinent in me when on the behalf of the people in these counties that I beg leave to observe that they think had Council been possessed of a true state of this Country, at the time the aforesaid orders were agreed to, that their arrangements would have been very different from what they now are with respect to us. In order to justify this opinion, suffer me to further observe that the people in this country are poor, and in a great measure made so by supporting an extensive frontier during the war, which hath not yet ceased with respect to them—a war fraught with all the horrors of Savage invented cruelties, by which this Country hath been greatly depopulated, a considerable part of whose inhabitants hath been barbarously butchered or carried away into an Inhospitable Indian land, there to suffer all the miseries of captivity, under the power of those who, at will, put them to death under all the tortures that savage cruelty can invent, merely to gratify their wanton Sports, whilst those of us that have escaped have, and still are, oblidged to make bread for our families in the midst of perils and dangers from the up-lifted tommyhauk. Under these circumstances, should the present orders be inforced, it must inevitably ruin a very considerable part of the well-disposed inhabitants of this Country, for it is almost certain that General Sinclair will not call for our quoto of Militia before next spring, at which time the General Government will take place, and it is probable an expedition into the Indian Country may be thought necessary, and should our people be kept at that season from their families, the length of time it may take to effect such a campaign, they'll most assuredly be deprived of making crops, and those families must inevitably starve; besides, they would be left helpless and unguarded, open to the invations and depredations of the Indians whensoever they should think proper to attack them. This being a true state of the people's condition in this country, suffer me, on the behalf of the inhabitants of the Counties before mentioned, (and indeed Ohio County ought not to be forgotten, altho' I am not instructed to write anything for them on this subject, yet I consider their condition to be similar to ours,) to pray that Council would be pleased to reconsider their orders herein alluded to, and at the same time permit me to suggest whether it would not be more proper to call for the quotos of the Militia required of us from the Counties situate betwixt the Blueridge and the Allegany Mountains, the inhabitants of which cannot be materially injured by furnishing the number of men upon this oc'ation call'd from us. As those counties are populous and situate in perfect

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1788. December 12th safety, let me therefore intreat your excellency to lay this letter before the hon'ble Council, who, I doubt not, will grant us such relief in the premises as they, in their wisdom, shall think right and proper.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your excellencie's Mo't Ob't Servant.

December 13th PETITION OF JOHN BROWN, OF AUGUSTA COUNTY,

Praying the remission of a fine of £40 imposed upon him by the County Court of Augusta for selling goods, wares and merchandize without a license. The law was violated through ignorance, and therefore hopes for Executive clemency.

December 15th JAMES SHIELDS, GENT., APPOINTED SHERIFF OF YORK COUNTY,

Tendered James Southall, Gent., and John Drummond as his securities. The Court pronounced John Drummond insufficient, whereupon the said James Southall made oath that without covin or collusion he was unable to give security.

December 15th THE PETITION OF MAJOR JOHN NELSON TO THE HON'BLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

Sheweth that the Petitioner was appointed to command the State Cavalry in the year 1779, in consequence of which he was furnished with a sum of money to purchase horses; that your Petitioner was ordered to join the Southern Army, under the command of Baron De Calb, early in the Spring of the year 1780; that before he left the State he had not an opportunity of settling his Acc't; that your Petitioner, with the corps under his command, was ordered back to this State in consequence of an invasion in the fall of this year; that your Petitioner continued with the Army on the South side of James River till some time in the Spring of the year 1781, when your Petitioner went to the Board of Auditors to settle his Acc't with the Publick; that he was informed by Mr. Archer, the only Auditor, he thinks, present, who examined and compared his Acc't with the Vouchers, that it was fairly stated and all the money accounted for; that your Petitioner then demanded a discharge, but was told by the s'd Archer that as there was not a Board in Town it could not then be done, but that if he would call on the Board of Auditors the next time he came to Richmond his business should be done and the discharge ready for him. * * That when he called on the Board he was informed that all the Papers relative to his business were lost in the confusion when Gen'l

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Arnold was at Richmond. * * Your Petitioner now stands charged upon the Auditor's Books with a considerable sum of money, which he is not only accountable for, unless relieved by this H'bl. House, but is deprived of all the pay and Depreciation due to him. Your Petitioner therefore prays such relief, &c. On this Petition is a statement by J. Pendleton that Major John Nelson has not received his pay and depreciation as an Officer in the State Cavalry. 1788. December 15th

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LETTER FROM P. CARRINGTON, PR. LYONS, JS. MERCER, Jr., HENRY TAZEWELL, JOS. PRENTIS, RICH'D PARKER, JUDGES OF THE GENERAL COURT, TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL, December 16th

Enclosing a list of persons convicted of Capital Offences at a General Court held in Richmond, December 16th, 1788, to-wit: Thomas Williamson (Murder), Catharine Crall (Murder), Matthew Farley and Arthur Farley (Murder), William Jenkins (Horse-stealing). Arthur Farley recommended to his Excellency as a proper object of Mercy. Richmond

Ben and Billy, slaves condemned to death at a court of Oyer and Terminer held for the Borough of Norfolk, on the 16th day of December, 1788—convicted of entering in the night time the Dwelling-house of David Cooper and stealing thereout between five and six pounds in money and sundry goods; it being the first offence of each, the said slaves recommended as proper objects of mercy.

GEO. CLENDENEN TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. December 18th

No steps taken, either by this State or Congress, to quiet the minds of the Indians, who are daily murdering and plundering our citizens who are exposed to them. Convinced that their hostilities will be greater against us than they have been heretofore, and calls on the Executive for relief. Refers to his letters last winter on the defence of Greenbrier and Montgomery counties by Scouts and Rangers. However, as the county of Kanawa extends from the line of Harrison to the upper county of Kentucky, and borders on the Ohio for upwards of one hundred and fifty miles, it forms a barrier, not only to the counties of Greenbrier and Montgomery, but to Washington, in a great measure, and hopes that the Executive will augment the number of Scouts and Rangers in s'd county and discontinue them in all those that are not in need of them. The Indians have totally refused to treat on any terms that were offered them, as the British supply them with everything they stand in need of to destroy our honest and industrious people at will. Has information that all the northern Tribes will be at war with us in the Spring. If no relief can be procured, it will be the business of the people of Kanawa that are thus exposed to move Richmond

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1788. December 18th — into the settled part of Greenbrier. Had been obliged to purchase for the use of the Scouts and Rangers, and to keep the posts on the Kanawa, two hundred weight of Gun powder, at 2s. 6. per pound. Also one hundred weight of lead, for which he gave 1s. —. These articles were necessary to the scouts and Rangers. Thinks that the next year will put an end to Indian Hostilities, as the General Government will take the business up, and the settlements west of the Ohio will be greatly strengthened.

December 18th — EDW'D BOOKER, COUNTY LIEUTENANT OF AMELIA COUNTY, TO COL. PAULING ANDERSON, OF THE FIRST REGIMENT OF AMELIA MILITIA.

Sir:

You are to look on yourself as in arrest for endeavoring to prevail on Charles Hoges to take a false oath, in order to screen you from paying a fine, for which you were presented by the grand Jury of Amelia County. You are, therefore, to lay by your side arms and confine yourself unto your own plantation until you have your trial.

December 20th — DANIEL HERRING TO GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH.

Isle of Wight — Says that he cannot possibly undertake the collection of the Revenue tax for the year of 1788. That the people of this county are greatly in arrears, many thousand Pounds, to preceding sheriffs. Fears that he will greatly suffer on account of the Tax for 1787, By reason the People cannot pay up their arrears and the '87 Tax in any due time, and the preceding sheriff, they say, must be paid first. Knows not what method to pursue. To distrain will have no effect, as no person will bid a farthing at these sales. That besides being sensible that the People cannot pay their Taxes in any reasonable time, his infirm state of health makes it impossible for him to execute the office of sheriff. Informs his Excellency that Mr. Thomas Smith, Mr. James Wills, and Mr. John Goodrich are the three gentlemen first in the commission of the Peace.

December 20th — WM. RADFORD TO THE HON'BLE JAMES WOOD, ESQ.

Goochland county — Gives an account of the balloting at November Goochland Court for the Office of Colonel, made vacant by the resignation of Colo. George Payne; that there were ten members at court, nine on the bench, eight of whom balloted, and five were in favor of Radford. There are sixteen acting members at present in the county. When the Court found that the Executive had rejected their recommendation and requested a reconsideration by a full court, they determined to remonstrate to the Hon'ble Executive, supposing they had been misinformed. Has the consolation to know that every Federal member in the county will vote for him. Accompanying Radford's communication is a letter from Lieut.-Col. John

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Guerrant, jr., to the Governor, narrating the action and manner of the Court when the letter of the Executive requesting a reconsideration of their action was received. Considered the action of the court disrespectful to the Executive, and their remonstrance a party measure. 1788. December 20th

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AN ACT CONCERNING THE CREDENTIALS OF THE SENATORS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH, PASSED THE 22D OF DECEMBER, 1788. December 22d

Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That so soon as any election shall be made of Senators for this commonwealth, in pursuance of the constitution of the United States of America, the Clerk of the House of Delegates shall notify the same to the Governor, who shall cause a credential to be made out and the seal of the Commonwealth affixed thereto; shall sign the same and cause it to be delivered to each Senator, which credential shall be in the words following:

Virginia—to-wit:

The Legislature of this Commonwealth, on the —— day of ———, one thousand seven hundred and ———, having in pursuance of the Constitution for the United States of America chosen —— ——, Esquire, a Senator, I —— ——, being Governor or chief magistrate of the Commonwealth, do hereby certify the same to the Senate of the said United States. Given under my hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth this —— day of ——, one thousand seven hundred and ——.

A like Notification shall be made and a like credential shall be delivered to Richard Henry Lee and William Grayson, Esquires, respectively, who have been chosen senators for this commonwealth. Whenever the Executive shall, by virtue of the said Constitution, make a temporary appointment of a Senator, a Credential shall be prepared, with the forms and solemnities aforesaid, and shall be delivered to such temporary Senator, in the words following:

Virginia—to-wit:

A. B., Esquire, who was duly chosen a Senator for this commonwealth, in pursuance of the constitution for the United States of America, having died (resigned or otherwise, as the case may be) during the recess of the Legislature of the commonwealth, I, —— ——, being Governor or chief magistrate of the Commonwealth, have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice and consent of the Privy Council, or Council of State, and by virtue of the said Constitution, to appoint —— ——, Esquire, to be and act as a Senator for the Commonwealth until the next meeting of the Legislature thereof.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth this —— day of ——, one thousand seven hundred and ——.

Compared with the Inrollment.

JOHN BECKLEY, *Cl'k h. d's.*

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1788. LEIGHTON WOOD, SOLICITOR, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

December 23d — By direction of the Executive states specially the case of Patrick Lockhart, Esq., Sheriff of Botetourt. Mr. Lockhart gave a Bond for the collection of all Taxes for the year 1784, and afterwards entered into another bond, conditioned for the collection of the Publick Taxes, levied by Act of Assembly on the Inhabitants of said County. No returns of two Militia Companies for the year 1785. Notices sent and given to Mr. Lockhart of motions intended at the General Court of Oct., 1785, for the One per Cent. and Revenue Taxes of 1784, which motions were suspended untill 1787, for the following reasons: First, an expectation of receiving the deficient List; Secondly, the want of a return from the Commissioners of the Land Tax, &c., &c. Continued the motions against Mr. Lockhart until April, 1787, and then obtained judgments against him, &c.

December 24th — COL. GEO. CLENDENIN TO THE EXECUTIVE OF VIRGINIA.

The ammunition which I purchased for the use of the Scouts and Rangers I put in the hands of proper persons in the County of Kanawa, whose duty it was to distribute, when Occation might require, and account for the same when called on.

Given under my hand this 24th day of Decem'r, 1788.

December 24th — RICHARD CARY, JOHN TYLER, AND JAMES HENRY, ESQUIRES,

Chosen by joint ballot of the General Assembly Judges of the General Court.

December 25th — IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

Ordered, That the Clerk of this House be directed to deliver to the Orders of the Executive, from time to time, such returns and other Documents as may be useful in founding and supporting the claims of this State against the United States, and that he take descriptive receipts for the same, expressing that they shall be returned whenever required.

Teste,

JOHN BECKLEY, *Cl'k h. D's.*

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THE EXECUTIVE 1788.

Request to be informed whether a Loan Office Certificate hath at any time issued in the name of John Johnson, and whether the said Certificate hath been presented at the Auditor's office for the payment of the interest thereon since the first of January, 1787. The auditor replies: That there is registered in the name of John Johnson, jr., No. 484, for £93. 6., a paper money reduced to £4. 13. 3., Specie, and No. 172 for £386, Specie, for property destroyed in Norfolk, and that a Warrant was issued June, 1788, for interest on Certificate No. 484. December 26th

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PAUL LOYALL TO GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH. December 27th

Sir:

A judgment has passed against the Commissioners for the defence of Chesapeake Bay to the amount of four hundred and five pounds, fourteen shillings and five pence half-penny, which sum was, I thought, fully paid, and bears particularly hard, as the debit arises from the Solicitors not allowing in the Acco't One hundred and forty-six pounds for a Clerk, whose receipt was produced, and eighteen Hogsheads of Tobacco received from Mr. Richards for one of the State Ships, and is yet on hand by the death of Mr. Richards, and a large part of the commissions being struck off. If your honorable board should think proper to allow this debt to be discharged in Loan-office Certificates, it can be done immediately, as the State owes me on Loan. If this, however, cannot be done, I humbly request that the execution may be postponed till June, and that the Treasurer be directed to receive warrants in discharge of this claim, as the State Ship was sold payable in Warrants. Richmond

I am, Sir, Your Mo. Hu'ble Serv't.

COL. GEO. CLENDENIN TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. December 27th

Encloses pay-Roll and list of Rations of Francis Watkins, commanding a party of Rangers. Informs the Governor that he had discharged the party of which he had given him previous information, and hopes that until the Winter breaks up there will not be any great danger. Richmond Greenbrier Rangers

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CUTHBERT BULLIT, ESQ., December 27th

Elected additional Judge of the General Court by joint Ballot of the Senate and House of Delegates, and on the same day and in the same manner, Cyrus Griffin, Esquire, elected a member of the privy council, or Council of State, in the room of Beverley Randolph, elected Governor of the Commonwealth.

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1788. PETITION OF ROBERT MITCHELL TO HON'BLE JAMES WOOD.

December 29th Prays to be released from prison (having been confined more than twelve months) on account of the helpless condition of his family, his wife in danger of starvation, she having recently given birth to twins, being among strangers and having no friends or money.

December 29th MEMORIAL OF MR. SAVARY, ATTORNEY IN FACT FOR RENE RAPICAULT.

Claims that interest on the debt admitted to be due from the State of Virginia to said Rapicault, and which was omitted, shall be added to the account. The General Assembly rescind their resolution referring the subject to the Executive and disallow the claim. Memorialist asks that the State shall pay the debt and then obtain reimbursement from Congress Through the lands ceded in the Western Country by Virginia to Congress.

December 29th JOHN P. DUVALL TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Richmond From enquiry I find it is the opinion of the delegates of the district of Monongalia, Ohio, Harrison and Randolph, that Col. George Jackson, of Harrison, and Maj'r Zachariah Sprigg, of Ohio, should command the militia of the s'd District, should they be called for.

I am, sir, your Excellency's most Ob't, Hum'e Serv't.

December 29th GEN'L J. KNOX, SECRETARY OF WAR, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

WAR OFFICE, December 29th, 1788.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform your Excellency, that by letters recently received from the Governor of the Western Territory, it appears that the affairs with the North Western Indians still remain unsettled.

The Governor states that he is uninformed whether any arrangements had been made respecting the Militia of the frontier, in consequence of the enclosed Resolve of Congress, of the 12th of August last, which was duly communicated to the Executives of Pennsylvania and Virginia by the Secretary of Congress. As the assistance required may eventually be necessary, I beg leave to request the information of your Excellency what measures have been adopted by Virginia in consequence of the before mentioned Act of Congress, of the 12th of August last.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's most Obedient, Humble Servant.

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IN PURSUANCE OF A RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 1788.

December 29th

Authorizing and directing the Executive to take the earliest and most effectual measures for procuring all such vouchers and documents as may be necessary or useful in founding or establishing the claims of this Commonwealth against the United States, the Executive directed all persons who, during the late war, acted as commanding officers of counties, commissioners of provisions, commissaries, Quarter Masters, or in any other character chargeable with the reception or distribution of supplies, or with the raising of men for the Army, that they forthwith prepare for adjustment of their accounts and vouchers of delivery and distribution of the same, as persons will speedily be appointed for the special purpose of calling upon and settling with them.

The Executive having found it expedient to procure the aid of Counsel to the Commissioner for settling the Accounts of the State with the United States, and in the further prosecution of this important business may judge it necessary for the public Interest to make other arrangements therein, are empowered by the General Assembly to take such effectual measures as shall, in their opinion, be most likely to obtain a speedy and advantageous adjustment of the said accounts, &c.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

December 30th

Resolved, That the settlement and Report of the Commissioners respecting the losses sustained by the burning of Byrd's Warehouses, ought to be confirmed and established, and that payment, for the Tobacco, therein stated to be destroyed, ought to be made by the Treasurer to the several Proprietors thereof, out of the funds in his hands, arising from the surplus of Tobacco paid into the Treasury from the several Inspections of Tobacco, and that Mr. James Price, Clerk to said Commissioners, ought to be allowed, for his services, the sum of two pounds, six shillings, &c.

PETITION OF HENRY WADE,

December 30th

Setting forth that a military Certificate for sixty-three pounds, four and 2 pence, purchased by Petitioner of a certain Tarpley Macham, in whose name the same was issued, referred to the Executive to examine the same, and if it shall appear to them that the said Certificate has been destroyed to cause a duplicate thereof to be issued to the petitioner.

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1788. RO. BRECKENRIDGE,

December 30th States that it is the Opinion of the members from the District of Kentucke, that L't-Colo. William Oldham, of Jefferson county, and Maj'r Patrick Brown, of Nelson, would be proper appointments, when the restriction is to officers of that grade. But, if proper to appoint from others, Col. M. Hardin and William Whitley, who they think is promoted to the rank of Major, is thought better.

December 30th RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Public tobacco That the Executive be empowered to appoint some suitable person, or persons, for the purpose of disposing of such Tobacco as now is, or hereafter may be, in the hands of the Treasurer, in discharge of Taxes, at public or private sale, at such times and places and under such Regulations as to the said Executive shall seem most for the public Interest, and that they make such Compensation to the person or persons so to be employed as to them shall appear adequate to the services to be performed.

Teste: JOHN BECKLEY, *C. h. d.*

H. BROOKE, *C. S.*

December 30th RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Empowering the Executive to direct a Duplicate to be issued to Thomas Mathews, guardian of John Johnson, of a Loan Office Certificate for three hundred and eighty-six pounds, if it shall satisfactorily appear to them that the Original Certificate was destroyed.

December 30th JOHN LANGDON, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO BEVERLEY RANDOLPH, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
Portsmouth, Decemb'r 30th, 1788.

Sir:

I had the honour yesterday of receiving your Excellency's letter of the 2d Inst., inclosing a copy of the application, agreed to by the Legislature of your State, to be made to the congress of the United States, and I have this day laid the same before the Legislature of this State, agreeably to your Desire.

I have the Hon'r to be, Very Respectfully,
Your Excellency's Most Ob't H'b'e Serv't.

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COL. GEO. CLENDENEN TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. 1788.

Expresses his happiness and gratitude in contemplating the friendly disposition of the Legislature and Executive towards our frontier. * * They could not foretell the amount of the expences that might accrue, nor how soon Gen'l Government might take up the subject of our defence. However, I shall as soon as possible present the board with a copy of the appropriation, and wait with great pleasure their determination. December 30th

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WM. LOWTHER AND HEZEKIAH DAVISSON TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH AND GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNSEL. December 31st

We beg leave to inform your honourable Board that from the account we have had from our county, and also our own knowledge, that the Militia ordered out of our County and State will be very injuri's and Disagre'able to the pepol in general, therefore we humbly Request to have the Draft countermanded, or the number lessened. We observe that 30 men could Scersly Be Rais'd the last year.

COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. 1789.

Sir:

I beg leave to suggest to your Excellency the expediency of interesting the deputies of Major Claiborne in rendering an account of the supplies they received from the State. From the arrangement of posts in the quartermaster's department during that period, the influence of that department was more extended thro' the State than perhaps that of any other in it, and of course it became an object to engage their agency in collecting and receiving the supplies raised within their districts. Very considerable is the amount they received, and for which no doubt they passed receipts. As these are not obtained, I know of no proof so likely to be procured at this late day, or that will apply so extensively, as accounts from these continental agents of the credits the State should have upon their books, if any person could be authorized or employed to examine them, as I have understood they are very incompleat; indeed, none of his deputies have ever settled with him, nor has he settled with Congress. I should not have troubled your Excellency on this occasion, but I conceived it important, and that no authority but the Executive could, with propriety, assure to these deputies any or what compensation they shall receive for their trouble. January 1st Richmond

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your Excellency's Most Obed. Serv't.

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1789. COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

January 1st Richmond — Requests the payment of a quarter's salary. Was constantly engaged in the public business from the 22d of September.

January 1st — J. AMBLER, TREASURER,

Encloses an account of the monies already paid in part of the expences attending the Scouts and Rangers—also a memorandum of some of the Claims which will be pressed on the Treasury, between this and April next, after which, little or no specie can be expected to be received. For Scouts and Rangers for the Counties of Greenbrier, Monongalia, Harrison and Randolph, £943. 17. 2. specie.

Interest warrants which have been registered, and remain unpaid, Do. for the first five years which have not yet been presented. Duties on Tobacco improperly paid and the money ordered to be refunded—Interest on Paper money funded—Wages unpaid to members of Assembly—The Officers, and expenses of do—Wages to Delegates now at Congress till March—Wages to Senators and Delegates to New Congress—Salaries to the Judges—Support of the State Boats—Post at Point of Fork—Public Jail—Contingent expenses—Expenses attending Public Warehouses—Subscriptions to the Canals.

January 1st — WILL. MCCLUNG TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Crouch's tavern — When he left the district of Kentucky, was pressed by Col. Hynes and others to undertake the settlement of the accounts of the scouts and Rangers for that County. Knowing that Col. Hynes had made himself responsible for their wadges and paid those persons who furnished rations, promised to endeavour to procure the money. Obtained warrants for some of the Lincoln and Mercer Scouts to the amount of £449. 18. 1. Will set out for Kentucky in a few days, and if I do not receive the money, must carry the warrants with me. Those people liable to become a prey to Speculators; therefore hopes that the Executive will direct the Treasurer to pay the money in whole or in part.

January 1st — COL. GEO. CLENDINEN TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Richmond — On hearing the determination of the Executive Respecting the pay and Subsistance of the Scouts and Rangers, felt very much alarm'd, not only on account of the Situation I stand in, as being bound for their pay and subsistance in my county, But the situation that our frontier will be left in

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the ensuing year. Asks the Executive to take a view of the British at Detroit and elsewhere, who on discovering our Gen'l Government about to operrate, which they have every Reason to believe, when carried into effect, will put an end to their progress in our Western Country, will they not stimulate the different tribes of Indians to fall on our Frontier with Redoubled vigor? Shall I, after failing in my engagements last year, be able either to procure a man or a supply for them? (No, Sir.) In vain did [he] last year Draft the militia and on public credit offer to purchas supplies; until [he] bound [himself] for each payment neither could be procured. Thus the Legislature, viewing our situation, did, as they thought, make the most ample provision, as was Expressed by their Unanimous Vote, In directing It to be paid Out of any money If the funds thereto assigned ware not sufficiently productive. No sufficient reason for not complying with engagements that there is but five thousand pounds in the Treasury. Feels fully assured that there is not an officer of Government, that is worthy of his appointment, but would cheerfully forego the inconvenience of lying out of his sallery for a few weeks, or even months, Rather than Hazard a matter of so great importance. If nothing can be done, there is an end to our defence. Requests the Executive to furnish their reason, so that he may justify himself and lay the matter before the next assembly, thereby to procure relief. 1789. January 1st

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JOHN UNDERWOOD TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL, January 1st

Enclosing the Remonstrance of nine members of the Court of Goochland County, who conceive that [their] Honors have been misinformed respecting the manner in which the recommendation sent down in favour of Wm. Radford, Esq., was made ———. Asks the favour of the Honorable Executive to decide upon it as soon as possible.

DIVIDEND OF THE SALARY OF THE COUNCIL, January 1st

Composed of Mr. Randolph, Mr. Wood, Mr. McClurg, Mr. Jones, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Heth, Mr. Moore, and Mr. Goode, according to the number of days of attendance by each counsellor from the first day of October, 1788 to the first day of January, 1789. The whole sum the subject of divsion, £599. 0. 11.

W. HEITMAN January 1st

Requests A. Blair, Clerk of the Council to send him the Western Commissioners' Journal.

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1789. LIST OF EXECUTION LAW AND SEPARATION ACT,

January 1st Delivered by the Public Printer to certain persons for their respective counties; also of such as were sent to the Council.

January 5th AT A COURT HELD FOR PENDLETON COUNTY,

5th of May, 1789, the following persons were recommended to the Executive to be commisioned as Captains and subaltern officers of the militia in said County: Rodgers Dyer, Captain; William Patton, Lieut.; and William Dyer, Ensign. James Patterson, Captain; Abraham Carper, Lieut't; and Samuel Sudmore as Ensign. Justus Hinkle, Capt.; John Jeter, Lieutenant; and Jacob Jeter, Ensign. James Sudmore, Capt'n; George Lough, Lieutenant; and John Cunningham, Ensign. William Ebberman, Capt'n; Cunrod Carpenter, Lieut.; and George Bumgarner, Ensign. Adam Hull, Capt'n; William James, Lieut.; and George Bexroade, Ensign. Jacob Howber, Capt'n; Jacob Galaspy, Lieut.; and Thomas Howber, Ensign.

Teste: GAW HAMILTON,
C. P. C.

January 5th COL. T. MERIWETHER TO THE GOVEROR.

States that upon an examination of the last quarterly Returns and Pay-Rolls of the Superintendent at the Point of Fork, and comparing them with the vouchers he found them fair and accurate. That a balance of £155. 6. 7. is due to the Superintend't and Artificers. The sum of £72. 12. is due to the Guard. That the Superintendant has advanced, of his own money, the sum of £25. 15. for repairs to the houses of the post and other contingent expenses, which he requests may be repaid. That thirty barrels of Corn are yet wanted to complete the allowance of Forage for the ensuing year, which it is supposed may be procured at 8s. per barrel.

January 6th E. LANGHORN TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Point of Fork Wishes the contractor for provisions at this post to be discontinued and an order made for him [Mr. Langhorn] to furnish provisions the remainder of the year on the same terms that the contractor has done, as he has not any provision on hand. From the close attention which he had been obliged to pay to the Post, wishes for about the three months' absence to arrange his private business, during which time Mr. John McDonald, or some other trusty man will act for him. States that the term for w'ch the soldiers are engaged for at the post, expires the 1st of April next. Thinks an order for their reënlistment might be necessary.

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WILLIAM PRICE TO COL. THOS. MERIWEATHER. 1789.

Informs him that having seen an act of Assembly and an order of Council calling together all persons that have rec'd any species of public property, money, &c., that have not accounted for the same to make immediate settlement, as the Executive will proceed to the appointment of persons to call on them for that purpose, requests Col. Meriweather to recommend him to the Executive to perform that duty. January 6th Goochland county

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AT A COURT-MARTIAL, HELD AT THE COURT-HOUSE OF RUSSELL COUNTY, January 7th

The 18th day of November, 1788: Present, Henry Smith, Colonel; Charles Cocke, Major; David Ward, James Davidson, Frans. Bronnen, John Tate, Josiah Fugate, Captains; Christopher Cooper, James Osborne, Solomon Litten, Robert Tate, John Bowen, Lieutenants; Reuben Price, Ensign.

Ordered, That Colo. Henry Smith be President of this Court-Martial.

Commonwealth vs. *James Gibson*, on an arrest on suspition of disobedience of Orders. After the matter being fully heard, it is ordered that he be dismist from said charge.

The Same vs. *Richard Thompson for the Same*, dismist.

RUSSELL COUNTY.

This day came Alex'r Barnet, Lieutenant of said County, before me, a justice of the Peace for said County, and made Oath that the above is an exact transcript from the records of Court Martial held in Russell County the 18th day of November, 1788. Sworn to before me this January 7th, 1789.

ANDREW COWAN.

HEZEKIAH DAVISSON, CHARLES MARTIN, AND THOMAS LAIDLEY, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. January 8th

Sir:

Several years ago the Legislature appropriated a considerable sum to open a Road in conjunction with Maryland from the north fork of potowmack to the Monongalia River. The Gentlemen, to whom the execution of this business was intrusted, have opened a road which, in good weather, is passable, and proves, both because it shortens the distance and is on much better ground, that the design was a good one.

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1789. January 8th — Being members of Assembly, from the part of the Country to which this road leads, think it our duty to inform your Excellency of the want of Bridges and Causeways. Recommend that Commissioners from some of the adjacent counties be appointed to examine the Situation of the Road, &c.

January 8th

At a Court Held for Albemarle County

Albemarle — The eighth day of January, 1789. Present: Nicholas Lewis, Reuben Lidsay, James Kerr, Thomas Ball, Hudson Martin, Bennett Henderson, William Douglass, Meriwether and William Michie, Gentlemen. It is ordered by the court, that Lieutenant. Wilson Cary Nicholas, Esq., be recommended to the Governor and Council as County Lieutenant of this County, at the particular request of Thomas Ball, esquire, Colonel, and next in command. John Key as Major in the room of Robert Quarles, who has resigned, and Horseley Goodman as Lieutenant in the room of David Kerr, and David Kerr as Captain in the room of John Thomas, who has resigned.*

County Lieutenant

A copy—Teste:

JOHN NICHOLAS, *C. C.*

January 10th

Colo. Wm. Davies to the Governor.

Sir:

Richmond — Agreebly to your Excellency's directions I will put, in writing, my ideas on the subject of instructions to the persons to be employed in going into the country for the collection of accounts and vouchers. The general objects of attention have already been delineated in your circular letter, but there will be so many local subjects of enquiry in the several districts, which every day's examination of papers brings to my view, that I would suggest the propriety of directing the persons employed, to receive occasionally, particular instructions from me, in addition to those from the Executive; indeed without some arrangement of this kind, for the information of the persons employed, the business must of necessity be very imperfectly executed.

I am, very respectfully,

Your Excellency's obed't Serv't.

January 12th

Petition of William Jenkins

To the Governor and Council for a pardon, he having been sentenced to death for horse-stealing, in the County of Dinwiddie. Enclosing a statement and recommendation to pardon, Signed by Samuel Williamson, John Williamson and Samuel Lankister.

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*Appended to this document is the County Seal in a state of perfect preservation.

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PETITION OF THOMAS WILLIAMSON 1789.

And numerous Citizens of Henrico County, to the Governor and Council, for the pardon of the said Thomas Williamson, who was sentenced to death for the murder of John Stark. January 12th

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PETITION OF WM. FRAZER January 12th

To the Governor and Council, for the remission of a fine of £14. imposed by the General Court on him for an assault on Knowles Giles, one of the Deputy Sherifs of this [Henrico County] in execution of his office.

AT A COURT HELD FOR NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, January 14th

The court doth recommend to the Governor the following militia Officers: Caleb Smith to be Lieutenant in Capt. Wm. Fisher's company, and Arthur Rodgers, ensign. John Core to be lieutenant in Capt. Carpenter's Campany, and Thomas Elliott, ensign. George Snead to be Capt. in the room of Seth Powell, who resigned, James Upshur, Lieutenant, and James Parramore, ensign. Southy Spady to be Capt. in the room of Robert Huggoman, who resigned, Archibald Harshaw lieutenant, and William Costin, ensign.

A Copy—Teste:

WM. STITH, *Cl. C.*

JOHN BLAIR TO THE GOVERNOR. January 16th

Sir:

I have to thank your Excellency for the commission with which you have honoured me, to be one of the judges of the court of appeals, and to inform you that I have this day qualified under it, a circumstance with which I conceive you ought to be made acquainted, for the sake of authentic information to the Clerk of the high court of Chancery, who ought to know when the orders of a single judge of that court are to be obeyed by him, as that will be the case after two of the judges shall have gone into another court. Perhaps, too, the remaining judge will need the same regular information. I have the honour to be, with great deference and esteem,

Sir, Your most Obedient Serv't.

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1789. JOHN MACON, SHERIFF OF SUSSEX COUNTY, TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

Hon'd Gent'n :

January 16th Agreeable to an act passed at the last session of Assembly for appointing Electors to chuse a President, I caused an election to be held in my County, and on the seventh Day thereafter attended at my Court House in order to compare the Polls taken in the several Counties in the District, but only three other Sh'fs attended. We proceeded to examine the Numbers on the four lists, which were as follows: For Joseph Jones, of Dinwiddie County—On the poll in Sussex county, 133; do. in Prince George county, 145; do. in Isle of Wight, 72; do. in So'ampton, 3; [Total], 353. For Samuel Kello, of Southampton county: On the poll in Sussex county, 63; do. in Prince George, 8; do. in Isle of Wight, 209; do. in Southampton, 363; [Total], 643. We were entirely at a loss to know how to proceed to make our return, the Sheriffs from Dinwiddie and Surry being absent. Sh'd be glad to be inform'd how we are to proceed farther in this business.

I am, Gent'n, Your mo. H'ble Serv't.

January 17th DAVIS & NICOLSON TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

Public printing They represent their great disappointment at finding their accounts for printing the laws of the last Assembly docked the sum of forty pounds, without taking into consideration any disadvantages [they] suffered, or extraordinary expense incurred from a wish to have the laws completed and sent out at an early period after the rising of the Assembly. That in order to expedite the printing of the laws [they] engaged a greater number of hands than [they] usually employ. Purchased paper in this State, not having time to procure it from the North. Therefore cannot but hope that the [Executive] will take under [their] consideration our claim, &c.

January 17th PETITIONS* TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL,

numerously signed by inhabitants of the Counties of Powhatan and Chesterfield, praying the pardon of Matthew Farley, Sen'r, condemned to death for the murder of his own slave by excessive whipping.

January 19th PETITION OF ANN CRITTOTEN,

wife of William Crittoten, to the Governor and Council, praying the release of her husband from confinement.

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* The Executive unanimously refused to grant a pardon in this case.

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EXTRACT FROM THE ACT 1789.

To amend the several laws for appropriating the public Revenue. Enacts that one-tenth part of all the arrearages of Taxes which have become due prior to the first day of November, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, shall, as the several payments may be hereafter made into the Treasury, be set apart for the use of the Sinking Fund, such porportion to be taken in money or Tobacco, at the price the same shall be paid into the Treasury, and disposed of by the executive * * * for the benefit of the said fund, in any of the public securities of this State or of the United States. January 19th

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ANDREW DUNSCOMB TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. January 19th

Account of £85,936. 11., in Paper money, of the emissions of this State and the United States, taken from among the State papers in his office, and which Mr. Dunscomb presumes should have been destroyed or defaced.

T. MERIWETHER TO THE GOVERNOR. January 22d

Having scrutinized the books and papers of Capt. Young, the successor of the commercial agent, which were placed in my hands by the special order of the Executive, and are now desired by Colo. Davies as vouchers for the establishment of State claims against the United States, I beg leave to report a descriptive list of them, which, perhaps, may enable the Executive to determine what ought to be delivered and what retained. This descriptive list contains Bonds, Books, Inventories, Invoices, Returns of sales of public horses, Orders of the Executive, and a letter from the late commissioner of the war office. Suggests that as it appears by the ledger that several balances are due from individuals to the State, the books and papers to be sent to the Auditor before they are delivered to Col. Davies.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY January 22d

Having authorized the Executive to appoint an agent to sell the public tobacco, Robert Pollard and Harry Heth each, by letter, sought the appointment, and the following proposal was submitted to the executive by Benjamin Harrison, jr.:

Sirs:

I wish to make a purchase of the Public Crop Tobacco which you offer for sale, and I will give the following prises: One-half payable in three months in cash, the other half in the c'il Warrants, receivable in

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1789. taxes for the year 1787, payable in six months. For 268 Hhds., upper Rap.
January 22d and Poto., 17s. 6. p'r 100 lbs.; 77 Hhds. Rich'd, Man. and Osb., 20s.; 135 Hhds. Apomatox, 19s. 13.; do. Rivanna and Lynche's, 17s. 6.; 22 Lower Poto., 102; Do. Rappa., 79; Do. Lower York, 104; Lower James and South Quay, 16s. If you will give me four months for the cash payment, and eight months for the payment in Warrants from the time of Delivery, where my price is 20s. I will give 21s.; twenty shillings instead of 19s.; Eig'teen shillings instead of 17s. 6.; and 16s. 8. instead of sixteen shillings, and I will extend the purchase to 1,000 Hhds., the remaining 200 Hhds. to be received in 20 and 30 Hhds. at a time, as they come into the Treasury. I propose to give my notes payable at the Treasury, according to the terms of Bargain. To insure my payments, I will lodge eight or ten thousand pounds in Public securities immediately, and, if thought necessary, I will make the sum £20,000 in a month from the time of receiving the tobacco. If we are likely to agree I wish to hear from you as soon as convenient.

I am, Sir, with every sentiment of respect,

Your very Obed't Ser't.

January 22d PETITION OF MARY WILLIAMSON,

Wife of Thomas Williamson, sentenced to death for the murder of John Starke, to the Governor and Council for pardon, accompanied by a petition of Turner Southall, Nath'l Wilkinson, Tho. Prosser and Wm. Lewis, praying a suspension of the Execution for one month, or any other time that your Hon'ble Board may think proper.

January 25th BERNARD MOORE TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

Recommending Nathan'l Fox, son of Joseph Fox, late inspector of Tob'o at the Warehouses of Frazers & Mantepike, as a proper successor to his father as inspector at said Warehouses, and enclosing a letter to the executive from Drury Ragsdale, recommending the said Nathaniel Fox as an assistant inspector at the Warehouses of Frazers & Mantepike.

January 26th COL. WM. DAVIES TO HON. COLO. BRAXTON AND HETH.

Gentlemen:

Richmond It would have afforded me satisfaction to have been able to have specified the particular objects of Enquiry for the persons to be appointed by the Executive; but my atten. has been so much engrossed in examining and ascertaining the claims held forth on the part of the

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State, and in arranging the business in a mode the most likely to remedy past omissions, as well as least liable to objections from Mr. Winder, that I have not had time to form the detail of the enquiries which it will be necessary should be made. Something similar to the inclosed I had intended to have sketched out, as well for the investigation of supplies of money and stores as of men, to which last the inclosed alone relates. Upon the departure of Mr. Winder, which he tells me will be the first of next month, I shall be able to devote a day wholly to it. I hope that, in fact, it will be rather an advantageous delay than otherwise, as by that time such an examination of the documents, relative to the specific taxes, will have been made, as will enable me to point out with much more exactness the local as well as general subjects of investigation and scrutiny.

1789. January 26th

I have the honor to be, very Respectfully,

Your most obed't Serv't.

CHARGES PREFERRED BY CAPT. WILLIAM HELM AGAINST COL. JESSEE EWELL, OF PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY,

January 26th

Alleging misrepresentation to the court in recommendation of John Lawson [Nepotism] in the recommendation of Charles Ewell, Jun'r, a nephew of the said Jessee Ewell, who wants capacity and common understanding. Partial behaviour on the 29th November, 1787, at a General Muster; Incapacity as a disciplinarian in forming a Regiment or Batalion, &c., and Enclosing numerous depositions on the subject.

Charges vs. Colonel Ewell

GRESSETT DAVIS TO GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH.

January 27th

May it please your Excellency:

Yours of the 2d instant was handed me a few days ago, accompanied with a letter directed to Geo. Elliott's Ex'rs. Col. Richard Elliott is the only acting Executor of Geo. Elliott, Dec'd; he lives in Charlotte County, unto whom I will send the letter by first good opportunity. In answer to your Excellency's letter to me, I have to inform you that the public accounts under the different acting Quarter Masters at this Station are in an exceeding deranged and unsettled situation. I acted untill August, 1780, as an assistant to Geo. Elliott, untill which time I believe matters stands tolably regular, about which time Geo. Elliott, dec'd, entered as well unto the field departments as the station, and, I believe, drew large sums out of the Virginia Treasury for both departments, neither of which have been settled, and perhaps never can be properly settled, as I have been told many vouchers was lost by some of his assistants in the field department. The Station appointment he held under Mr. Richard Claiborne, who, I have heard, never settled his accompts, and is now gone to England. All the papers belonging to each depart-

Petersburg

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1789. January 27th ment, with the books, is in a Trunk lodged in my care by George Elliott's Ex'r, to remain until some person is authorised to receive and settle them in behalf of the public. Geo. Elliott also acted as commissioner the year Cornwallace ran over this State and fell into our hands. I am inclined to believe there are not returns made of all that expensive business. Mr. Isaac Holmes succeeded Geo. Elliott, and Daniel Tisdale after him, both in the year 1781, as Quarter Master at this station, under Mr. Richard Claiborne, and the whole business which was done, I have been informed, lays unsettled by Maj. Richard Claiborne, if it was settled by those gentlemen with him, and by the frequent changes in the quarter Master department, the confusion the Enemy threw everything in, the decease of Geo. Elliott soon after, Maj. Claiborne ceasing to act, and no person being appointed, with proper authority, to receive the people's claims for supplies furnished, or for services performed, many, I believe I may say hundreds, of the good Citizens of this State, on the whole south-side of James River, have had no chanel into which they could lay their claims so as to obtain a settlement, or get such certificates as would be received either by this State or the United States to this day. From the above state of the public affairs at this station, which extended to the whole of the South of James River, Your Excellency will no doubt see the necessity of appointing some person at this place, authorized to receive the people's claims and to grant such Certificates by which they may obtain some satisfaction on a futer day, as also to receive the accompts from George Elliott's Ex'rs, which is to an amazing amount, I believe, in cash and impressments. Under a conviction that I have a considerable experience in the nature of public accompts, and know more of the situation of the public at this place than any other person, and having a great desire that they should be closed, as well for the benefit of individuals, as of the State in general. If your Excellency thinks proper to invest me with authority, and will give me anything worth drawing my attention that way, I will come over, in order to receive authority and your Excellency's directions in the business, and give what further information in my power, upon receiving a line from you.

I am y'r Excellency's mo. hum'l Serv't.

January 27th

BOND FROM HARRY HETH,

Heth, agent, for sale of tobacco

John Tayloe Griffin, Benjamin Harrison, J'r, Tho. M. Randolph, to Governor Beverley Randolph, in the sum of Ten thousand Pounds, lawful money of the Commonwealth. Recites that the said Harry Heth has been appointed an agent for the purpose of disposing of such Tobacco as now is or hereafter may be in the hands of the Treasurer in discharge of Taxes, and that if the said Harry Heth shall faithfully discharge his duty, according to the instructions of the Executive, and pay any amount of sales collected into the treasury, then the obligation to be void.

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REPORT OF CARTER BRAXTON AND WILL. HETH, 1789.

Made under Order of Council, of the investigation of the progress made [by Mr. Dunscomb] toward adjusting the account of this Commonwealth with the United States, in which they represent that they are of opinion that many omissions, of a very important nature, have escaped the notice of Mr. Dunscomb, which, had they not been discovered, would have been highly prejudicial to the interest of this State. In this imputation it is not meant to impeach the attachment of Mr. Dunscomb to the cause of the Commonwealth, but to shew that admidst the state of papers, and the numerous laws of this Commonwealth relating to this business, and which he says he never could obtain till very lately—he had not fathomed into the deep and dark recesses of many of the items which ought to compose a great part of our debit against the United States. They further state that a great many clerks have been employed [in a way], the utility of all of which [they] could not discover, and that with concern [they] find, at this late day, the accounts at such a distance from a final completion; and conclude their report by a specification of numerous omissions which occur, and debits which should have been entered in the account of Mr. Dunscomb. January 27th Account with United States

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FAIRFAX COUNTY SET.—JANUARY COURT, 1789. January 28th

On a motion for levying Tobacco, for the purpose of defraying the expences of building a new courthouse, or repairing the present one, it was objected that the court had no legal authority to levy any money or Tobacco on the Inhabitants of the County for any purpose whatever, and the question being put whether they were vested with that power or not, George Mason, Charles Broadwater, Martin Cockburn, Richard Chichester, David Arell, Charles Little, William Payne, Charles Alexander, Roger West, William Lyles, William Herbert, and Thomas Gunnell, Gentlemen, were of opinion that the power of levying by the courts was destroyed by an express article in the bill of rights of this commonwealth, but Robert Adam, George Gilpin, David Stuart, John Moss, James Wrenn, Richard Conway, John Fitzgerald, William Brown, Benjamin Dulany, and John Potts, Gentlemen, were of the contrary opinion.

A copy—Teste:

PET. WAGENER, *Ct. Cu.*

Acompanying the above order is a request of the publick officers of Fairfax County, asking the advice of the Council and the opinion of the Attorney-General concerning the power of the County Courts in levying [taxes].

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1789. JOS. JONES, ATTORNEY-GENERAL, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH,

January 28th States the case of Catharine Crull—under sentence of death for the murder of her husband. Her parents were German Imigrants, who dying, left her an Orphan, among strangers, by whose charity she was reared. From her infancy she was remarked for her stupidity. She is now not more than seventeen, and in her sixteenth year married Henry Crull, her deceased husband. She first denied, and afterwards voluntarily confessed that she had perpetrated the murder and declared that she had been impelled thereto by the persuasion of the Devil. She was asked by the witness whether she felt no remorse for the act, after it was done, "She answered, none at all," until she casually discovered her dying husband catching and struggling in the pangs of death. Mr. Jones then states: The conduct of this ill-fated woman brought strongly to my mind the case of one Phillips, from the county of Hanover, who, during the regal Government, was tried and convicted for shooting his wife. He was pardoned on a suggestion of lunacy and committed to the lunatic Hospital, where I remember frequently to have seen and conversed with him. About him I could not discover stronger marks of insanity than the poor woman, who is the subject of this letter, has exhibited. He, like the unhappy Catherine, charged the Devil as the Author of his crime. Does not believe that she [Catharine] is capable of associating three ideas, &c.

January 29th J. DAWSON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

NEW YORK, January 29th, 1789.

Sir:

Accept my grateful thanks for your friendly letter of the 14 Inst., which I received by yesterday's post.

The States of Massachusetts bay, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia and South Carolina are now represented, and altho' they do not make a congress, yet I consider it incumbent on me to communicate to the Executive of our State some transactions which have come to my knowledge. I have received an address to congress from the convention of Kentucky on the subject of the navigation of the Mississippi, cover'd by a letter from the President. This will be presented at the earliest moment; and in answer to the President's letter, I have observed that it cannot with propriety be acted on by the present congress, as there will not be *more* than nine states represented, some of which have ever been in favour of the surrender of that river to Spain. Colo. Morgan, who was in treaty with congress for a large tract of land on the Mississippi, being disgusted at some conditions annex'd to the ordinance, which

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he thought illiberal, has entered into a plan with Mr. Gardogui, the Spanish Minister at this place, for settling a large tract of land, to be bounded by the parallel of Cape Cinque Homme on the north, the parallel of the mouth of St. Frances river on the South, the Mississippi river on the East, and extending west two degrees of latitude, containing a country as fine in soil and superior in trade to any in America. This transaction I consider of the most interesting nature, and one which will probably produce a remarkable era in the American history, as a door will be open'd through which the United States will loose many thousands of her best citizens. We have certain information that Morgan has already entered into engagements with the most reputable characters and the most useful farmers and tradesmen to go to New Madrid with him on the next year; and a number of judicious people are gone with him to reconnoitre and survey the lands on a plan far superior to that of Congress, and to lay out ground for a large City as nearly opposite the mouth of the Ohio as they shall judge expedient. Added to these circumstances, the most sacred assurances of freedom in religious matters, a free navigation of the Mississippi to New Orleans, clear of *all duties and taxes*, besides being entitled to all the commercial priviledges which the Citizens of New Orleans enjoy in *any* of the King of Spain's rich dominions are inducements sufficient to draw the attention of the industrious and enterprising; and altho' the lands on the Ohio and its branches are very fine and productive, what benefit can be drawn from them, more than a bare substance, without a market for their productions? and consequently without commerce the best inhabitants on these waters will emigrate to the equally good lands on the West side of the Mississippi, where peculiar priviledges will induce them to oppose nations having the same advantages; hence discontents will arise at Kentucky, &c., against the Government of the United States, a separation will ensue, and commercial and other treaties will be formed between Spain and the Western Anglo-Americans for their mutual advantage and security. 1789. January 29th

On yesterday the Secretary of foreign affairs laid before the attending members of Congress a letter from the Governor of the Western Territory, which contain'd information interesting to the Union in general, and particularly to the State of Virginia. The Go'r writes that he has information on which he can depend, that a Colo. Conolly, who rendered himself pretty conspicuous during the late war, has lately come from Detroit to Louisville; that the apparent object of his journey is the settlement of some private accompts, but that he has good reason to believe that he is employee to Lord Dorchester, from whom he has lately received a pension of £200. 15s., in addition to his half pay, to induce the people of Kentucky either to form a connection [with] Great Britain, or to commit hostilities on the Spaniards; that he has written to a number of persons, and has made some communications to Gen'l Morgan. You will readily perceive, Sir, that for the want of a congress and a federal tribunal we

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1789. could do nothing decisive in this business. We, however, advis'd the
January 29th Secretary to write to Gov. St. Clair, and to advise him to keep a strict eye over Conolly, and if he finds his suspicions well grounded, to have him apprehended and delivered to the State in which he should be taken, and to be careful to have his papers, &c., secured, as *it* would probably bring on a national discussion. I doubt not but you before this have received the information which I now give, and have taken proper steps to secure Mr. Conolly, if the above-mentioned suspicions are well founded. I, however, considered it as my duty to make the communication, especially as I think the business more properly belongs to a State than to the continent. These circumstances will, I trust, render any apology for the length of this letter unnecessary. It still remains doubtful whether any senators will be appointed by this State, both houses adhering to their principle. They have, however, divided the State into districts for the choice of members to the lower house, and have not made residence necessary.

With sentiments of respect and esteem,

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's

Most Ob. hum. Serv't.

January 29th EDMUND RANDOLPH TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Williamsburg Enclosing a communication of sundry gentlemen, recommending John Crump, the present Jailor of the City of Williamsburg, [as] a proper person to be Keeper of the Jail belonging to the District Court.

January 29th DANIEL BEDINGER TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL,

Richmond Thinks it highly probable that the Naval Officer, at Norfolk, will be elected to the Congress of the United States,—that having lived four years in the Naval Office at Norfolk, during which time the laborious and intricate business fell to his lot. Humbly begs leave to present [himself] as a candidate for said office.

January 30th A'W DUNSCOMB TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

States that since he has been intrusted with the Important office of stating and adjusting the accounts of this Commonwealth, with the United States, he has been governed by the same leading principles, which influenced him during ten years previous service in the employ of the U. States; Presumes the resolution of the General Assembly was intended to lessen the expence of the office for adjusting the Continental account,—that œconomy has at times a fascinating influence, which leads men to acts that in the end produce contrary effects. That legal abilities are very

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useful, but when all circumstances are brought into view, possibly this knowledge might not merit singular preference—a knowledge of accounts not to be disregarded. It may be presumed that all my little knowledge will be at the call of my successor, but is there nothing due from responsibility?—flatter that my services are worth the salary I enjoyed, and am led to hope that upon reconsideration, I may be continued an equal, &c. 1789. January 30th

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WILL. MCCLUNG TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. January 30th

Recommends William McDowell, Esq., a gentleman who lives near Danville, as a proper person to be appointed to settle with the Clerks of the County Courts in the District of Kentucky, and for that purpose invested with the powers of Solicitor-General and auditor of public accounts. He was generally talked of by the members from that country, at the Assembly, as the most proper person that could be appointed to the office. Requests his Excellency to send the Commission as soon as safe opportunity would offer, as I am persuaded the Clerks of the County Courts in that country will be very dilatory in paying the taxes in their hands until there is some mode of compelling them, and in consequence thereof the officers of the Supreme Court may be distressed for want of their salaries. Rockbridge county

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WM. HAY TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. January 31st

Sir:

The Directors of the public Buildings have a claim on the Estate of Colo. Archibald Cary for monies advanced in 1785 for Plank and scantling which he contracted for; also for some lots purchased by him at Warwick, and he always informed the Directors that the value of his Lot near the Capitol, which was located, should be applied towards payment of what he owed whenever the Assembly would take measures for paying for the located grounds. Will you therefore be so good as to lay the matter before Council, to know whether they will authorize the Treasurer to pay the valuation of his located Lot to the Directors? Richmond

I am, Sir, Your Most ob. Serv't.

MEMORIAL OF WILLIAM WINDER, COMMISSIONER FOR RECEIVING THE CLAIMS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA AND THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA AGAINST THE UNITED STATES. January 31st

Represents that there are considerable arrears due from the United States to him and the Clerks who assisted in his office, for the payment whereof they depended solely on the continental loan office in this state. That the said loan officer, on a late application, informed him that he was Richmond

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1789. not only unable to pay these arrears, but to advance any sum, however
January 31st necessary. * * He (your memorialist) is consequently without means either to comply with his present engagements or to defray the expenses that must inevitably ensue. Requests the Executive to direct a sum to be placed in the hands of the said loan officer on account of the United States for that purpose. The balance due from the United States to the Office up to the 31 of December last is somewhat upwards of three thousand dollars, and as most of the individuals to whom it is due have pressing occasions for their respective proportions, your memorialist wishes to solicit the whole of this sum.

January 31st SETTLEMENT BY MARTIN OSTER, VICE-CONSUL OF FRANCE,

Martin Oster's condemnation against Jean Cauvey

Of a controversy between Henry Cugneau and Jean Alexis Subercaseaux, merchants and subjects of his most Christian Majesty, and Jean Cauvy, another merchant and subject of his said Majesty, all residing in Petersburg, condemning the said Jean Cauvy to pay to the said Cugneau and Subercaseaux, in the space of 24 hours, the sum of forty-one pounds, fifteen shillings and 4d., with interest from day of demand, and 15s. costs. Also settlement of a certain Controversy between Pierre Barthis, a merchant and subject of his Most Christian Majesty and the said Jean Cauvey, condemning the said Cauvey to pay to the said Barthis the sum of eighty-five pounds, thirteen shillings and eleven pence half-penny; and the said Martin Oster requires aid of the Executive to execute the said condemnations.

February 1st PETITION OF JOSEPH STROTHER TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

Culpeper

Represents that he acted as Deputy Sheriff in the County of Culpeper in the year 1782, under Mr. John Strother, the then high Sheriff; that the deranged situation of the peoples' affairs, their poverty, and the great scarcity of specie, made it impossible to collect the taxes in that pointed manner the Law required, in consequence whereof Judgment was obtained against the high Sheriff for a ballance of £266. 14. 5d., with costs and damages amounting to £27. 9. 6d.; that the money was paid into the treasury as fast as he could collect it from the individuals, and that he actually paid a considerable part of the Balance and Costs out of his own private funds to facilitate the operations of government. In consideration of which he begs that the damages may be remitted and placed to the credit of John Slaughter, Gent., the succeeding sheriff for that county, under whom he continued to act as Deputy.

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C. GRIFFIN TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. 1789.

Sir:

The papers delivered by Major Croghan shall be faithfully canvassed when Congress may assemble, possibly the present week, after which a full state of the business will be transmitted to your Excellency in Council. The Executives of some of the larger States have directed one of their delegates, upon the same pay, to remain here after the N. Government convene, in order to attend the board of commissioners now sitting, to explain the accounts, &c. Perhaps it may be salutary in a high degree, if your Excellency and the Council shall be of that opinion and think proper to entrust me, I could have no objection to pass the summer upon that business; at all events the object is important.

February 2d
New York

I have the honor to be, sir, with profound regard,
Your Excellency's obedient Servant.

REPORT OF JOHN BUCHANAN, JOHN MARSHALL, AND W. FOUSHEE. February 4th

Sir:

In obedience to the request of your Excellency we have visited Catherine Crull. She appears to us to be almost in a state of entire ideotcy. Her mind seems so much disordered that we think her totally incapable of Distinguishing right from wrong, or even of knowing what is said to her.

Richmond

We have the honor to be, with great respect,
Your Excellencie's most ob't Serv't.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL BY JAMES MONROE AND OTHERS February 5th

Of John Richards, as jailor for the District Court, to be held in the town of Fredericksburg, and recommendation by O. Towles and others of Benjamin Alsop for the same office.

Virginia—Sco't.

Pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of this commonwealth, intituled An act for the appointment of Electors to choose a President, pursuant to the Constitution of Government for the United States. We, the subcribers, being ten of the Electors appointed for this Commonwealth (our respective appointments having been duly advertised by the Governor and Council, according to the directions of the said act), this

February 5th

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1789. February 5th

day assembled in the City of Richmond, and having proceeded to discharge the duty of our appointment, do hereby certify and make known the following list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each, agreeable to the first section of the second article of the constitution of Government for the United States, to-wit: For George Washington, Esquire, of Mount Vernon, ten votes; for John Adams, Esquire, of Massachusetts, five votes; for George Clinton, Esquire, of New York, three votes; for John Hancock, Esquire, of Massachusetts, one vote; for John Jay, Esquire, of New York, one vote. Certified and given under our hands and seals at the City of Richmond aforesaid, on Wednesday, this fourth day of February, 1789.

P. HENRY,	[Seal.]
JOHN PRIDE,	[Seal.]
JAMES WOOD,	[Seal.]
JOHN HARVIE,	[Seal.]
W. FITZHUGH,	[Seal.]
ZECHARIAH JOHNSTON,	[Seal.]
EDWARD STEVENS,	[Seal.]
ANTHONY WALKE,	[Seal.]
DAVID STUART,	[Seal.]
JOHN ROANE.	[Seal.]

RICHMOND, 5TH FEBRUARY, 1789.

Received three several packets, addressed to the Secretary of the United States in Congress assembled, covering each a fair transcript of the foregoing votes and proceeding of the Electors of Virginia in the choice of a President, which I promise safely to convey as addressed, in such manner as that one at least of the said packcts shall be duly delivered on or before the third day of March next.

JOHN BECKLEY.

February 5th

COLO. GABRIEL FOWLKES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Amelia county

Informs the Governor that in virtue of orders from the Executive, for the arrest and trial by Court Martial of Colo. Pauling Anderson [he had], directed the different officers pointed out by the same to attend, in order to proceed upon the said trial. A field officer from one of the battalions failing to attend, renders a trial at this time impossible. Enquires whether it is essentially necessary for the whole, or whether a majority, of the officers pointed out by the Executive are or may be sufficient to proceed in the said trial as a court.

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W. GRAVES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH, 1789.

I have enclosed you by the hands of Mr. Boyce, the acc't of expenses of the two hands employed in the searcher's department for this Port, be pleased to give him an order for the money. My returns are now sent up. February 9th

I have the honor to be, &c.

THE AUDITOR February 9th

States There's no acco't on the aud'rs books against Stephen Coleman as collector of the taxes of Pit'sylv'a, Nor is there any bond in his name in the Sol.'s office. The enclosed papers may possibly give some information on this subject, which his Ex'cy, the Governor, will be pleased to send down when they have been perused.

COL. J. PARKER TO THE GOVERNOR. February 9th

Sir:

Being informed that the District in which I live have in a manner unsolicited, voted me their representative, it is very probable I may accept of the honour confered on me, consequently shall be obliged to relinquish the naval office of Elizabeth River, it is not my wish, however, to resign it untill I take my seat in Congress, a disputed election may deprieve me of that honer, and if I resign untill the matter is determined, I may neither be member of Congress or naval officer. Your Excellency and your honorable Board, will please, therefore, to excuse my not resigning at present. Early in the next week I propose being in Richmond to settle my accounts and pay up for the last quarter, then I shall do myself the honor, with your permission, to address you more fully on the subject, and I trust you will believe me with very much respect and esteem. Portsmouth

Your Most obedient and
very obliged Servant.

PET'R LYONS TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH, ESQ. February 10th

Sir:

I have the honour to receive your letter of this date by express, and am sorry that any doubt respecting my accepting a seat in the court of appeals, should occasion you so much trouble, for I supposed the Judges of the Gen'l Court would have proceeded under the new law without Hanover

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1789. February 10th consulting me, as I did not claim any part in the business, which I could not now fairly do, as I had signified to some members of the assembly my determination to acquiesce and yield to any law made by them for regulating the courts, that should be agreeable to the constitution, so that I shall accept of my late appointment, unless it shall be considered as improper by the Judges when they assemble at the court of appeals, in March, and tho' I mean to be guided by them, as to qualifying in the new Court of appeals, yet, I shall not disturb any gentleman who is appointed to succeed me in the Gen'l Court, so that he has my consent to act fully in that office. I have the honour to be with great respect and regard,

Sir, Your Excellencie's Most obe'dt, h'ble serv't.

February 10th

WM. FLEMING TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Summerville I am sorry that my having been inexplicit in my former letter, on the subject of my appointment as a judge of the Court of appeals, has occasioned you and the judges now assembled in Richmond, so much trouble. Had I foreseen these inconveniences, I should then have accepted the appointment, as I now do.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obed't serv't.

February 11th

CERTIFICATE OF COL. WM. DAVIES

That Col. Wm. Finnie has delivered sundry valuable documents for a considerable amount of supplies, received by him, in his continental character, which he has regularly authenticated by his official signature, &c.

February 11th

JAS. JONES, ATT'Y-GEN'L, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Informs him that he had purchased the Slave Timothy for £30. Thro' mistake the bill of sale is made to me. I will, however, make to you such a conveyance as may enable you fully to comply with the resolutions of the last assembly. Will you please to grant a warrant pursuant to the enclosed order?

I have the honor to be, respectfully,

Your Most Ob't Serv't.

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COL. JOSEPH NEVILL TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH, 1789.

In reply to a memorial of Hezekiah Davison, Col. Martin and a Mr. Laidley, seting forth that there had been a great sum of money voted by a resolution of the House of the Assembly for the purpose of opening a road from the North branch of Potowmack to the Mongngahali, and that the road was very bad for want of Proper Bridges and Causeways. Assigns reasons why the bridges and causeways have not been made. What [he] had received yet had not been as good as two hundred pounds, and that to cut a road of twenty miles through a mountain. Such another is not in all America, many miles of which could not be cut for Thirty pounds. February 12th Hardy

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PETITION OF JOHN CAUVEY TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL. February 12th

Sheweth that in observance of the Act for the protection and Encouragement of the commerce of nations, acknowledging the independence of the United States of America, your Hon'ble board have directed that the consul of France shall be aided in carrying into execution two judgements he has rendered against your petitioner, the one in favour of a Mr. Peter Barthis, the other in favour of Mess. Cugneau & Subercaseaux. To the first sentence your petitioner has submitted, but with respect to the second, when their contest was decided by the consul of France it was actually depending before the court of Dinwiddie county, in which Mess. Cugneau & Subercaseux had instituted a suit against your petitioner. The act giving jurisdiction to the consul, being designed to favor foreigners, only comprehended those who were willing to submit their cases to his cognizance. Your petitioner refused to appear before the consul, [and] in his absence the consul proceeded to render judgment against him, [and] for more than the plaintiffs' own accounts shew to have been due, and for the price of a lot to which no title has been made to him. Your petitioner therefore hopes, under the circumstances, that your Excellency and the Council will withdraw all aid from the consul of France so far as respects the enforcement of this decree.

COL. WM. DAVIES TO THE GOVERNOR. February 16th

Sir:

As Mr. Winder is now setting out, there will be no occasion to run the State to further expence by a continuance any longer in the house now occupied as an office, Some of the rooms of the Capitol would now be much more convenient, affording a readier access to the evidences on the files of the Assembly. * * In consequence of some occurrences, which took place Saturday, with respect to the Commissioners, a representation was made to him, a copy of which, as soon as fairly transcribed, will be sent to your Excellency. Richmond

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1789. WALTER CROCKETT, COUNTY LIEUTENANT, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

February 16th
Montgomery county

I take this opportunity to wright to you by Capt. Robert Sayers, who is going to Richmond on business of his own, to inform you of the State of our Fronteers in this County. There has been several of our hunters from the fronteers down Sandy River, Forty or Fifty miles below the settlement of Blue Stone and Clinch, and discovered fresh signes of several partys of Indians, one of the Hunters is a brother to Henry Harmon, that had the skirmish with them late in the fall, when he and his two sons behaved like heros, they came ameadiately in, and warned the fronteer settlements, and has applied to me to send out spies; they say if there was foure scouts that they could confide in, they would endeavour to plant Corn this Spring, and stay this summer. Otherwise, Blueston Settlement will brake up, and of corse the settlement on the head of Clinch will not stand long. I expect as soon as the winter brakes up, that the Indians will commit hostilities on some part of the fronteers of this county the enshuing Spring, but God only knows the event,—whatever orders your Excellence sends shall be punctually obeyed.

Sir, I am your Excellence Most Hum'e Serv't.

February 17th

REPORT OF L. WOOD, SOLICITOR GENERAL, ON THE MEMORIAL OF THOMAS ALLEN, LATE SHERIFF OF SHANANDOAH COUNTY

Richmond Solicitor's office

Stating the recovery of a judgment, and issuance of an execution for the "Revenue Tax due for the year 1785, which was collected by Alexander Macher, Esquire, who preceeded him [the memoralists] in office," which judgment was erroneous, as it appears by the Books, that the taxes of 1785, for the County of Shanandoah, are now paid, [therefore] (should the Executive approve,) shall deem it [the judgment] as set aside.

February 17th

COL. WM. DAVIES TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

Sir:

The Auditor's day-books, excepting for the year 1786, are in this office, and are now under examination for the purpose of securing any charges that may have been omitted in the extracts formerly made. The principle upon which the selection was made does not seem to be well defined, and various persons in succession have been employed in it. As far, however, as my own observations, together with the information of others, will enable me to judge, those charges only are professed to have been extracted from the books subsequent to 1781 which contain settlements for supplies or services rendered prior to the end of that year. I

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1789. February 17th.

am not certain I fully understand what *other things* besides monies are intended by the order of Council, nor do I certainly know whether any other payments than those *immediately* made to the drafts of Congress are deemed as payments made in discharge of the requisitions. If any payments subsequent to October, 1871, for supplies or services rendered before are admitted as discounts against existing requisitions, they perhaps had better be withdrawn from the claims presented to Mr. Winder, and upon our arrival at New York may, without much difficulty, be settled; nor can it be well done before, as he has the vouchers. If by the word things is intended Articles delivered specifically, they never appear upon the Auditor's books, unless a valuation has been affixed and a special statement taken to the Auditor's office to be charged. This was very seldom done, the returns being generally made to the Executive boards. Most of these vouchers I have been endeavouring to collect. Wherever they could be introduced, they are so among the papers Mr. Winder has. Many, however, were procured too late for admission, but elucidate or are connected with those that he has taken with him as presented in time. Perhaps, therefore, this selection cannot be made before we meet the papers again. The payments made to the immediate drafts of congress I believe may be ascertained here, as none were included in the claims presented but paper money payments, altho' some of *them* were as late as 1784 or 1785. If the Executive think proper the payments made *directly* to the drafts of Congress may be noted as the examination now on hand proceeds, tho' we are now advanced as far as 1783, and have placed the letter R opposite to those payments on account of requisitions, to prevent he Clerks from taking them. After all, it a is great misfortune the Auditor's books are not posted; they will, in my opinion, be essentially necessary at New York, and may afterwards be bro't back, if permitted to be taken from hence.

I am, with the greatest respect,
Your Excellency's most obed't Serv't.

J. PENDLETON, AUDITOR, TO THE GOVERNOR,

February 19th

Encloses an account of sundrie expences incur'ed by the State of Virginia in protecting and defending her frontier inhabitants from the depredations of the Indians since the cession to the United States of the lands west of the Ohio River, amounting to Twenty-one thousand Six hundred and fifty-three pounds five and three pence [£21,653. 5. 3]. The Auditor states that the vouchers of prior dates, relating to this expence, were taken from hence by Mr. Dunscomb, and I am informed by one of his assistants, were sometime ago delivered to the Comm'r of Congress, and are carried to New York.

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1789. P. CARRINGTON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

February 20th Charlotte county — I have just received your excellency's letter of the 5th. I mean to act in the capacity to which my country has called me. I would rather give up publick business than stand in the way of any gentleman appointed to the General Court, so as to derange the appointments made by the last assembly, having no doubt but that the circumstances you mention arose from inattention, not design.

I am with profound respect, Sir,

Y'r mo. ob't S't.

February 21st Alexandria — JOHN FITZGERALD TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Had received the charges, &c., respecting a Court-Martial on the County Lieutenant of Prince William, since which time the weather has been so severe that [he] was apprehensive, if a day was appointed, some of the members would fail in their attendance, &c. Intends naming a day about the middle of March, and shall forward the determination of the Court by the earliest opportunity.

February 23d Richmond — COL. J. PARKER TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Being elected a representative in Congress, and willing to obey my constituents, I shall prepare to execute the trust as speedily as possible, being sensible I cannot hold the Naval Office, and fully possest of the propriety of having a successor, I deem it my duty to relinquish it, &c. As the representative of Virginia, in the recess of the Assembly, most gratefully I offer my acknowledgments for the many civilities I have received from your board, and from my Country in General, whose welfare will always contribute to the happiness of him who is with every sentiment of gratitude and Esteem

Your Excellency's Most obedient and devoted Servant.

February 23d — COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

The payments made to Pensioners, down to the last year, are presented to the Commissioner among the other claims of the State. The payments to the requisitions are noted as they occur in the Auditor's books, together with the charges for Pensions. I do not think an account can well be drawn off without this examination of the day-book; and

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unless wholly confined to that enquiry, to the disregard of the other objects for which the examination is now had, the account will not be in readiness in less than a fortnight, as it will require that time to compare the extracts already made with the books. With respect to the resolution of the 13th December, Mr. Dunscomb informs me that as far as the claims and vouchers comprehend the entries on the Auditor's books, that were delivered to him, they were presented by him to the District Commissioner. On this head I would observe there were several expenditures in the Western Country that are not on the Auditor's books that are proper charges against the United States, the vouchers for some of which I have seen in Colonel Meriwether's office. How far these come within the precise words of the resolution I cannot pretend to say. If they do not, I propose to take them on to support the claims, the immediate objects of my attention, but otherwise shall leave them.

1789. February 23d

I have the honor very respectfully to be, Sir, &c.

JOHN BLAIR TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

February 23d

Your Excellency's letter of the 4th instant did not come to my hands til last friday night, too late to be answered by the next day's post. In a former letter I thought it proper to acquaint your Excellency with my having qualified under the commission w'ch you were pleased to send me in consequence of a resolve of the last session of General Assembly. At that time, it is true, I was not apprised of the Assembly's having omited to appoint a salary for the judges of the new court of appeals, but had it been otherwise I should not, upon that account, have scrupled to do what I did, as I am, with the Executive, fully persuaded that the omission was altogether inadvertent, and that the succeeding assembly will not think of fixing a lower salary for the judges than as judges of other courts they before enjoyed, and lower than judges inferior in station, tho' not in merit, still enjoy. Nothing but the delay in the receipt of your Excellency's letter could have prevented my returning (in conformity to your desire) a speedier answer.

Williamsburg

I am, with great deference,

Your Excellency's most obedient Servant.

IT IS THE OPINION OF THE COURT OF ROCKINGHAM

February 24th

That Jacob Lincoln is a fit and proper person for his Excellency, the Gov'r, to commission for Captain, in the Room of Peter Bryant.

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1789. SAM'L GRIFFIN TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

February 24th Williamsburg

As the worthy electors of the district in which I reside have done me the honor to elect me as their representative to the Federal Legislature, and as both gratitude and inclination induce me to accept of the appointment (in consequence of which I shall be disqualified as Sheriff of James City County), I have thought it my duty to advise your Honorable board of my determination. Colo. Dudley Digges stands second on the last recommendation from the county, and will accept of the office.

I have the Honor to be,
with the greatest respect and esteem, sir,
Your most Ob'd't, Humble Servant.

February 26th

AMELIA COUNTY, FEBRUARY COURT, 1789.

Bond and deed filed in the papers

Henry Anderson, Gent., one of the securities of Melinton Roach, a deputy sheriff, for the arrears of taxes due by the said Roach for Amelia County, for the year 1785, * * executed in court bond and a mortgage for the payment of a moiety of the said taxes, agreeable to resolutions of the General Assembly. * * Ordered, accordingly, to be recorded, as also the judgment of the General Court and resolutions of the Assembly aforesaid.

February 26th

COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Richmond

The papers enclosed herewith contain the last communications with Mr. Winder. He had proposed to unite with me in a report, to which proposition I had agreed, and had desired him to prepare one. On the Friday preceding his departure, upon my application to him on the subject, he declined it altogether, alledging that as the ordinance required him only to report the reasons that might be given for any deficiency of accounts and vouchers, he was ready to receive any the State had to offer accordingly, and pressed for dispatch, as he proposed, if possible, to fall down the river on sunday morning. Very much of my own attention being engaged in compleating the general accounts referred to in the inclosed, and in obtaining proper receipts for them and the accounts and vouchers carried on by Mr. Winder, as also in debating with him upon his unreasonable intentions of taking away the papers alloted by the ordinance to his cognizance, and refusing to give any receipt for them, as well as his strained interpretation, that descriptive acknowledgements meant no more than common receipts, it was out of my power in so short a time to prepare any representation fuller or more perfect than the enclosed, especially as I was detained with him on this business till near nine o'clock

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on Saturday night. By this time he had receipted for the general account of Specifics, rather, however, as an extra official act, but had permitted a recital to be inserted in the receipt, that no general account of the contents of the vouchers presented had been before made out, and that as great numbers of them were retained, because a descriptive acknowledgement could not be given for them for want of time, the general account was presented in lieu of them. As this was a claim which had very imperfectly, till then, been presented on the part of the State, I was the more solicitous to obtain Mr. Winder's signature to it. He signed it, and we agreed upon a receipt which he was to sign upon the duplicates of the other accounts, for which purpose they were delivered to his clerks to have the receipt indorsed upon them, but it being so late it was agreed to meet early on Monday morning, when the receipts should be prepared, and my report of the cause of deficiency of accounts and vouchers might be given him. I spent the next day in completing the inclosed, and on Monday morning attended Mr. Winder, but he had altered his sentiments, said he had been taken by surprise in giving the receipt he had done, and refused to give any more, nor could I prevail with him to have any further concern with the General accounts not receipted for, than merely to carry them on. These latter facts accruing after the inclosed was prepared, do not appear in it. Should it, however, be tho't material to state fully the circumstances of the transanction, so far as to shew the unjust exclusion of papers and claims, it may be done, and, perhaps, would be productive of such an admission by the new Congress of the authenticated claims of the State as would, at the same time that it did not obstruct as speedy a settlement as could be expected, would admit the full operation of every principle of Equity and justice. I thought it proper, for obvious reasons, to associate Mr. Dunscomb with me in the transactions I have above stated.

1789. February 26th

I am, with great respect,

Your Excellency's obed't Serv't.

COLO. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

February 27th

Begs leave to lay before [his] Excellency an abstract of such laws as point out subjects for enquiry throughout the country, as an imperfect guide for the gentlemen appointed to search for the vouchers and proofs of advances for the service of the United States. * * *

Richmond

It is certain if the rejection of the Commissioner in some instances and his rigid demands in others are to be the rule, Virginia will lose an immensity of money; and it cannot be denied that from causes, perhaps unavoidable, this business is by no means upon that firm footing in point of regularity as to render it unnecessary to apply for the interposition of the new Congress. A more favourable moment could not perhaps have

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1789. February 27th

occurred; a disposition to conciliate the good will of the several States, and for many reasons that of Virginia, will certainly be the prevailing temper of that body. The application of North Carolina, who has appointed her Commissioner to attend Congress expressly for the purpose of procuring an extension of time, is another fortunate occurrence; for although Virginia may feel herself precluded, in a measure, from asking it herself, yet the right I conceive she has to demand the most enlarged construction of the meaning of the Ordinance, and the particular cause she has to complain, as stated within, will at least produce the fullest permission to bring forward all the documents she now has, whose amount is not already included among the claims carried on, and may procure some farther indulgence as to those which may be hereafter discovered. Upon the whole, our situation is such that something, in my opinion, ought immediately to be done. If there is not some speedy decision had upon the subject, all our measures must be uncertain with respect to the evidence we are seeking. I therefore conceive it my duty to offer my services to proceed immediately to New York, with such powers to myself and such representations from your Excellency as you may think most likely to secure the object in view. Should this proposition meet your concurrence, as soon as the papers are completed for the persons to be employed in the collection of vouchers I would set out, and probably might return in 5 or 6 weeks at farthest.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's Obedient and Most humble Serv't.

February 27th

COL. HOLT RICHESON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Informs him that he was too unwell at the January Court to be sworn in as collector for 1787. February Court-day proved so bad that there was no court, and his illness still continued. Under these circumstances hopes that the collection of 1787 will be given him.

PRINCE GEORGE, FEBRUARY COURT, 1789.

George Keith Taylor is recommended to his Excellency, Beverly Randolph, Esq., Governor of Virginia, as a proper person to fill the office of Lieutenant of Militia in the place of Thomas Armistead, who refused to serve.

David Irvine the same, as Ensign in the place of Francis Osborne, who refused to serve.

A copy—Teste:

C. RUSSELL, *D. Clerk.*

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MECKLENBURG COUNTY, FEB'Y COURT, 1789. 1789.

The court doth recommend to his Excellency the Governor the following Gentlemen as fit persons for officers to fill up the vacancies in the militia of this county [to-wit]: Edmund R. Yates as Lieutenant-Colonel to the first Battalion, in the room of Samuel Venable, dec'd; Frederick Collier, Captain; Richard Hanserd, Lieutenant, and David Dortet, ensign.

Copy: W. BASKERVILL, *De.*

TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF MONEY ON HAND. March 1st

Specie in the Treasury on the 1st of March, 1789, £4,500.

Signed, J. AMBLER.

JAS. JONES, ATTORNEY-GENERAL, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. March 2d

Sir:

I consider the act for granting relief to Sheriffs and collectors of the public Revenue, in certain cases, as a remedial law, and therefore ought to be so liberally construed as to extend the remedy as far as possible. The objects to be benefit'ed by the Indulgence, held forth in this law, are sheriffs, collectors, and their securities, indebted to the Commonwealth for taxes prior to November, 1788. Levying an execution, taking effects, and returning that they are unsold, does not operate a discharge of the debt until the execution is returned satisfied. The Sheriff, or collector, against whom it is issued, is still considered as indebted to the public, and as such comes within the Express words of the above recited act. I am therefore of opinion that the Sheriff of Spotsylvania is within the meaning of the law alluded to. If, however, the Executive, fearing the loss of the debt shall think proper, notwithstanding this law, to make special direction for issuing an execution before the first day of June, I think a continuance, under the first process, would be the proper mode, because the interference of the Executive suspends the effect of the law, which, if left to operate, would render the issuing of a new *Fi. Fa.* after the first of June next necessary. Richmond

I have the honor to be, respectfully,
Your Most Obd. Serv't.

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1789. JAS. JONES, ATTORNEY-GENERAL, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH, ENCLOSING LATIL'S MEMORIAL.

Sir:

March 2d However just the observations contained in Mr. Latil's memorial may appear, I find myself constrained to differ from that Gentleman as to the construction he wishes to put upon the last revenue law. Considering it my office to say what the laws are, and not what they ought to be, I am of opinion that the Solicitor, under the last act of Assembly, is bound to receive indiscriminately, in discharge of Duties, the warrants which have been heretofore granted to foreign creditors by order of the executive in the years 1786, 1787, 1788.

I have the honor to be, respectfully,

Your Most Ob't. Serv't.

March 2d T. G. PEACHY, MAYOR, JOS. WESTMORE, ROBERT BOLLING, JNO. BAIRD, JR., ALDM'N, AND SAM'L DAVIES, REC'R,

Petersburg Recommend to the Governor and Council of State as an object of mercy Isaac, a negro man slave, the property of Hubard Wyatt, sentenced to death for the crime of Burglary, and enclose the proceedings of the court on his trial.

March 2d MARTIN OSTER, CONSUL OF FRANCE, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

Norfolk Requesting that the suspension of the order to the Sheriff of Dinwiddie, to aid in the execution of a consular decree against John Cauvy, may be taken off, and encloses sundry papers connected with said decree.

March 3d G°. WYTHE TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

That i may be able, sir, to procede with apparent propriety, acting as sole judge of the high court of chancery, i beg the favour of you, sir, to let me have certificates of mr. Pendleton's and mr. Blair's resignations.

i am, sir, your most obedient servant.

March 3d UNITED STATES LOAN OFFICE.

Richmond These are to certify that Lieut. Willis Wilson has delivered into this office a final-settlement certificate in his own name, for the sum of one thousand five hundred seventy-three and 30-90th Dollars in Indents, being the Interest that had been issued on said Certificate to the 1st January, 1785.

JAMES KEMP,

for John Hopkins, Com'r.

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HARRY HETH TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. 1789.

States that M. Gilbert has an account against the Foundery; that Gilbert's accounts on the books differ in several instances from the acc't he exhibits against the Foundery. If the accounts are returned to him [Mr. Heth] for settlement, he will stand in need of some advice from the Hon'bl., the Executive. March 3d Richmond

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JAS. M. MCREA TO MR. JOHN KERR, MERCHANT, RICHMOND. March 3d

Incloses by Mr. Wise an account against the State, and an order on the auditor for £23. 1. 0., in favor of Mr. John Kerr, for cash advanced on account of the State in Specie. Requests Mr. Kerr to remind the Auditor that it is cash advanced, and ought to be paid in the same ——; that he once before presented an account of this nature, for cash advanced, and received in payment an order on the contingent fund, which order [he] sold at a discount of 20 per cent., &c., &c. Alexandria

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L. WOOD, SOLICITOR, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. March 4th

RICHMOND, SOLICITOR'S OFFICE,
4th March, 1789.

Sir:

In answer to your favor of yesterday's Date, respecting the claim of Mr. Bibb, for commissions on the Execution against Mr. Flournoy, and expenses of Negroes, amounting to £52. 11. 10. I am to inform your Excellency that I have had several applications of the kind, and my answer has been, that I thought the delinquent sheriff should pay the commissions, if the sheriff levying the commission insisted upon it, as was customary in cases of all Debtors, as the Commonwealth, I apprehend, could have nothing to do with it. But for a final decision of the matter, advise the applicants to consult the Attorney-General, or Commonwealth's Attorney in their own county, how to act. I have understood that in some cases the Delinquent has paid these commissions, and frequently the demand has been waved, &c., &c. The solicitor encloses the bond of Mr. Flournoy, executed to him. States the difficulties of this and similar cases, and refers the subject to the determination of his Excellency.

DANIEL HERRING TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. March 5th

Informs him, as he had already done in his letter of December last, that [his] lowe state of health renders It Impossible for [him] to execute the office of Sheriff any longer for this County. Asks that Mr. An- Isle of Wight

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1789. March 5th — drews [may] be the bearer of a commission For whome he may appoint to execute that office. Intreats the Governor to relieve him from the office, as he is not able to discharge the duties. Adds, that the collection of the taxes for 1788 is important, and that the person commissioned should qualify, make out his books, and proceed to his collection in time.

March 5th

HARRY HETH TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Richmond — Inclosed your Excellency will please receive M. Gilbert's acc'ts on the Books of the Foundery, which you will perceive is settled by the scale of Depreciation as far as the charges are made blank for his services, to be fild up by the Executive. Inclosed also a state of his acc't against the Foundery. M. Gilbert conceives that he is entitled to Tobacco for his services, at the rate of twelve hundred pounds per month, &c.

March 5th

L. WOOD, SOLICITOR, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Richmond Solicitor's office — At the request of Col. Sampson Matthews, requests [his] Excellency to receive the statements left with [him] of Mr. Hughart's accounts, as Sheriff of Augusta, for the Taxes of 1785; also copies of two judgments in the General Court against the said Hughart: One in October, 1786, for the sum of fourteen hundred and eighteen pounds, fifteen shillings and two pence farthing, with interest, &c.; and the other in December, 1786, for the sum of two thousand, four hundred and twenty-seven pounds, two shillings and three farthings, with interest thereon, to be computed after the rate of five per centum per annum, &c.

March 6th

DRURY STITH TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Brunswick county — Recommends the bearer, Roger Mallory, who waits on his Excellency, to solicit the appointment of goalor to the District Court of Brunswick. As I am Clerk to the district Court, I feel some anxiety that these offices about the court be properly filled, and will therefore take the liberty to recommend him as a person of firmness and integrity, and well qualified for the place. He has been County Goalar a number of years, and lives at the Spott, and his conduct has always been approved by the Court.

With the greatest degree of respect,

I am your Excellency's

Mo. ob. Serv't.

At the foot the Governor adds: "Mr. Blair will be good enough to fill up a commission for Brunswick District as a jailor for Mr. George Mallory.

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COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. 1789.

Sir:

I enclose to your Excellency some tobacco notes which were found in some of the public papers, and appear to have been received either by Pierce or by James Warren, which latter acknowledges the receipt of 10,240 lbs. of crop tobacco in the paper which covered the enclosed, expressing to be a part of the collection of York County in the year 1780, and to have been received by order of Governor Jefferson. March 7th

I have the honor to be, Sir, &c.

W. ANDERSON TO ———. March 7th

Dear Sir:

Inclosed is a list of thirty-nine Hhds. Tobacco, weighing nett 39,456, saved out of the 52 put into my hands to have overhauled, reprised and reinspected. It is now compleated, and in fine order, and the notes in my possession. The Tobacco, I am informed by Mr. Tabb, (an exceeding good judge,) is really fine, and, therefore, if I may be permitted to give an opinion on the subject, recommend that the whole be shipped in preference to attempting a sale in the Country, because, notwithstanding the quality of the Tobacco, a few of us know to be good, it being known that it is Tobacco which has been overhauled, strangers will not give the value. Should it be thought expedient to take my advice, I would further recommend that it should not be drawn on under six months after the shipping thereof. Concord, Gloucester county

Incloses Mr. Tabb's and Mr. Pryor's receipts, amounting to £61. 10. 0., and states that at present our Tobacco will not command cash at any price, &c.

ANDREW MEADE, D. FISHER, JOHN JONES, DRURY STITH, March 7th

By their separate letters, Represent to Governor Beverly Randolph that John Stith, of Brunswick County, successively Capt., Major and Col., and who served his country bravely from the beginning to the end of the war, and thereby greatly impaired his estate; that he is indebted for upwards of Four Hundred pounds, which lately became due to the commonwealth, being the ballance of recruiting money put into Capt. Stith's hands for the purpose of recruiting the late continental army; that he encountered extream hardships, difficulties and dangers, and not being able to obtain his pay from his country, was under the necessity of selling a considerable part of his small private fortune to support himself; that his certificates, of what was due from his country for his services, exceeded his debt for recruiting money, and which Certificates he expected to ballance the account. If his property is sold under execution it will sell for less than half its value, to pay his Country that owed him more than sufficient to ballance the account. They therefore ask further indulgence. Brunswick county

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1789. C. GRIFFIN TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

March 9th I am honored by your Excellency's letter of the 13th of Feb'y only this morning. I did not understand that any person was appointed to come forward with the accounts of the State against the United States, or most certainly myself would not have been mentioned. Colonel Davies is a man very proper to answer the purpose, and I think will be found extremely useful. The Board of Commissioners met on the 17th of January, and are now ready to act on the business of their destination. I am favored, also, with the returns of nine of the representatives of Virginia, enclosed by your Excellency, which I shall deliver to Colonel White, the only member at present from that State. There are only eight Senators and 18 Representatives assembled—a very unfortunate thing. Be so kind to accept the enclosed papers, and to believe me, with sincere respect and attachment,

Your Excellency's Most Obedient Servant.

March 9th COLO. GEO. MUTER TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Danville, Kentucky As it is probable the Executive, from not knowing the people that live at or near this place, may find some difficulty in appointing a proper person to receive the money from the Clerks in this district and settle with them, as directed by act of Assembly, I beg leave to inform you that there is a young gentleman in this place, of unexceptionable character, who is willing to undertake that office, and can give the security required by law. His name is Thomas Speed, and he is at present with Mr. Greenup, Clerk of the Supreme Court, and assists him in his office.

I have the honor to be, &c.

March 10th J. PARKER TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Portsmouth My Brother will have the honor of handing you the returns from the Naval Office from the 20th of Jan'y to 26 Feb'y, 1789, at which time Major Lindsay succeeded me. I sett out for Congress about the 16th, where I shall be very happy to render any service in my power to the Honorable the Executive. I take the liberty to introduce my Brother, Mr. Copland Parker, to you as a young man of Sobriety and attention to his business, having served in the naval office for some time.

I have the Honor to be, with very much respect and regard,

Your Excellency's Most Obedient Serv't.

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MAYO CARRINGTON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. 1789.

Sir:

I have been, within a few days past, informed that all the negroes belonging to the public at the Buckingham furnace, have been lately sold by the sheriff of Buckingham under an execution against a person to whom John Reveley was indebted, who delivered them up to him for that purpose; that Colo. Wm. Cannon, of that county became the purchaser, and that they are now in the possession of Mr. David Ross. Mr. Reveley has rented and leased different parts of the lands to several tenants, and one of those tenants, who has the most considerable and valuable part, is parcelling it out to Under tenants. By these means, if some steps are not speedily taken to stay the waste that will probably ensue, the property will, in a great measure, be destroyed, and of consequence the public sustain a considerable loss in the debt due from Ballendine and Reveley. The Negroes, I expected, would have been required to be delivered up the last fall. The Trustees did not think themselves authorized to demand them, and they had no instructions from the Executive to do so. The purchaser considers himself bound to deliver them up on demand, altho', I understand, he has hired them to Mr. Ross for the present year. Reveley has determined not to surrender the land until it is recovered of him by law, therefore presume it will be necessary to take some legal steps with his tenants and to prevent them from cutting the timber, wasting and destroying the land, until the point in dispute between the Commonwealth and Mr. Reveley is determined. This information I, not only as a private citizen, but as one of the trustees, think my duty to give you. One of the other trustees is in so infirm a situation that he is unable to attend to the business, and the third did not think it right to take any steps with respect to the slaves without the special directions of the Executive. Had we have been informed of the sale of them before it took place, we might have prevented it, but the first information we had of it was some time after the transanction. March 10th Cumberland

I have the honor to be, with esteem,

Y'r mo. Ob't Serv't.

THOMAS UNDERWOOD'S PETITION TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL, March 10th

Sheweth that your petitioner is possessed of Warrants to am't of £903. 6. 5., drawn on the Treasurer the first day of July, 1783, for paym't. Your Petitioner seeing that this State hath obtained a credit with congress for 500,000 Dollars, as your petitioner supposes, on Acco't of her expenditures in reducing the Illinois Country, does not doubt but that as those warrants originated on that acco't, your Hon'ble Board will order them to be cancelled, and that the Auditor shall be directed to issue other Warrants in lieu thereof on the Aggregate fund, bearing interest from the time payment should have been made, which is agreeable to two Acts of

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1789. March 10th Assembly in that case made and provided. Your petitioner further sheweth that he has one other warrant in his own name for £31. 10., which he also requests may be placed on the said Aggr't. Fund, and he, as in duty bound, will pray, &c.

March 10th HARRY HETH TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Incloses a transcript from the sales which he had made of the Public Tobacco; also, Mr. Gilbert's accounts with the deposition of Henry Rigley, which Mr. Gilbert conceives sufficient to establish the three last credits in his acc't, &c.

March 10th HENRY RIGBE IN ACCOUNT WITH WESTHAM FOUNDERY, FROM FEBRUARY, 1780, TO DECEMBER 30TH, 1780:

Ballance due H. Rigbee, in Specie, £54. 6. 2. 4. By this account the rate of depreciation between paper and specie was in February '45; in May 60; in June and July 65; in Decem'r 75.

March 12th THE AUDITOR, MR. J. PENDLETON,

Informs the Governor that Mr. Southall has at length compleated a copy of the book (Vouchers No. 4), which the executive directed to be done, and wishes the Hon'ble Board to fix the compensation; states, also, that the list of Pensioners will be ready in a day or two.

March 14th HARRY HETH'S RECEIPT TO A. BLAIR, CLERK OF THE COUNCIL,

For notes for two thousand, one hundred and eighty-four pounds, gross, of Transfer Tobacco, at the Inspections of Cap't'l and Brick House.

March 14th L. WOOD, SOLICITOR, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Richmond Informs him that Mr. Anderson, of Amelia, has brought a copy of a Bond executed by him pursuant to certain resolutions of Assembly, with a mortgage by way of Security. Whether that is such security as the resolution requires [he] cannot tell, or whether the bond is a proper one; neither [does he] find power given therein to the Court to judge of sufficiency of it. Mr. Anderson wants a certificate from him [the Soli-

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citor] to stop proceedings against him [Anderson]. This he apprehends he cannot give. The papers Mr. Anderson has should be lodged with the Executive, and an order of Council made prohibiting any proceeding against Mr. Hudson's Estate, in consequence of Mr. Anderson's having complied with certain resolutions and directions for [the Solicitor] to apply to the Clerk of Amelia when they should be wanting. 1789. March 14th

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LIST OF PRISONERS IN PUBLIC JAIL, MARCH 14TH, 1789. March 14th

Catharine Crull, William English, Ephraim al. Elisha al. E. Willett, John Whitney, Hugh Dowdal, Rosanna Dowdal, Milly Moore, Absolum Allard, John Fowler, al. Anderson, Susanna Murphy (charged with murder), Agnes Smith (same charge).

N. B.—Willet is in custody of the Sheriff of this County ad's of Hugh Patton for £1,000.

[Signed] W. ROSE, *K. P. J.*

COL. RICH'D KENNON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. March 16th

Sir:

I was this day served with two notices from the solicitor, the one informing me that on the twelth day of next month he should instruct the Att'y-Gen'l to move for judg't against me as county Lieut. of Mecklenburg for the sum of twenty pounds, as a penalty incured for not making a gen'l return of the militia of this county for the year 1788; the other for failing to account for Fines or other monies which may have come into my hands by virtue of my office. As to the first, it was out of my power to do it, as I was on the Assembly from the commencement of the session till the 28th of Dec'r, and, of course, devolves on the Officers next in command. When I accepted of my appointment I found the militia of this county as much deranged as they could be, for by the act of Assembly of the year 1786 the officers had all forfeited their commissions in consequence of their not having re-qualified to them by the first of March, 1787; so that I found myself the only officer in the county. It of course took up a considerable time before I could get the Officers recommended and commissioned. In April, 1788, I had a meeting of the Officers of each Battalion, in order to arrange the different companies and settle the rank of the respective officers. In Nov., 1788, I directed Col. Walker to call a gen'l muster of the whole Militia and to make a return of them, as also of the fines assessed. For his neglect in this business I cannot officially account. During this spring I attended the regimental courts and had proper persons appointed to settle with the former collectors for old arrearages, of which there appears to be considerable sums due. As to my own part, there has not come into my hands one shilling Mecklenburg

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1789. March 16th by virtue of my office. As I am conscious of having it in my power to exonerate myself from censure or fine, would thank your Excellency to direct the solicitor to postpone his motion *vs.* me till the next fall, at which time I shall be in Richmond, as it would subject me to the greatest inconvenience to attend the Gen'l Court on the 12th of next month.

I have the honor to be, Your Excellency's Most Ob't Serv't.

March 16th

AT A COURT OF QUARTERLY SESSIONS,

Held for Dinwiddie County, at the Court House, on Monday, the 16th day of March, 1789:

Present: Joseph Jones, Phill. Jones, Edw'd Pegram, J'r, Jos. Whitehead, and Jordan Rase, Gentlemen, Justices.

Pursuant to an extract from the minutes of the Counsil, the court have taken under their consideration the charge of peculation exhibited against Colonel Peterson Goodwyne by Doctor James Greenway, and having entered into a thorough investigation thereof, are unanimously of opinion that the sum of money mentioned in the narrative laid before the executive by the said Greenway, was not designedly retained by the said Goodwyne, and that he, the said Goodwyne, is innosent of the charge aforesaid. The Executive having refered this matter to the deliberation of a full court, and it having been decided by five Magistrates only, It is hereby certified that there were only five other acting magistrates in the county, that two of these were absent, and that the other three refused to sit, in consequence of having acted as commissioners in preparing and bringing in reports thereupon.

Copy—Teste:

J. NICHOLAS,
C. D. Ct.

March 18th

CHAS. THOMSON TO THE GOVERNEUR OF VIRGINIA.

OEFICE OF SECRETARY OF CONGRESS,
March 18th, 1789.

Sir:

I have now the honor to transmit to your Excellency, herewith enclosed, two copies of the thirteenth Volume, which closes the Journal of the United States in Congress assembled. That the Change which has been made with so much wisdom, order, and Tranquility may answer the end proposed, and promote and secure the happiness, prosperity, and glory of the Union is my most fervent prayer.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest Respect,
Your Excellency's most obedient
and most humble Servant.

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COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. 1789.

Sir:

Finding it impracticable to select in as short time as I expected the vouchers for the payments of the pensions and requisitions, and understanding that, in all probability, the new Congress have scarcely got into action, I have thought it best to postpone my journey to New York till next week, especially as I was informed by Mr. Pendleton that there were more papers from his office, which he supposed your Excellency intended should accompany those already sent to me. The bulk of these papers, added to those respecting the requisitions, will make it necessary for me to procure a small trunk sufficient to contain them. * * * * Should Mr. Pendleton's information be right, and your Excellency be disposed to forward these papers by me, I will take necessary care of them, and have the honor to be, sir, most respectfully, March 19th Richmond

Your Excellency's obed. Serv't.

COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. March 19th

Doubts if Mr. Butler or Mr. Buckner will act in the collection of vouchers. Recommends Captain Denholm as capable and willing to act. [His] Exellency is the best judge, and Captain Denholm therefore waits upon [him] for further information. Judge Parker promised to inform your Excellency whether his son, Thomas, could act or not, so that my instructions might be forwarded to him at Fredericksburg by the 25th of this month. Alexander Parker he knew could not [accept]. If Mr. T. Parker will not, the Executive will please appoint some other.

W. ANDERSON TO JAQUELINE AMBLER. March 21st

Informs him that he had caused two hogsheads of the public Tobacco at warehouse opened and broke to satisfy himself of the quality, which he found to be really good, yet is doubtful whether it had better be shipped or not. The agreement respecting the Transfer Tobacco is executed and inclosed.

M. OSTER TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. March 22d

Maintains the legality and binding force of his sentence and judgment, as Consul of France, against Mr. Cauvey as debtor of Messrs. Cagneaux & Subercaseaux, all citizens of France, and residing in Petersburg, Va. Maintains that the Consular judgment having been rendered against Cauvey before he took the Oath of allegiance to the United States, the Consul is entitled to the aid of the Executive in execution of the judgment. Norfolk Borough Oster

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1789. I CERTIFY

March 23d That in consequence of an order of his Excellency, the Governor in Council, I agreed with the bearer, Mrs. Jane West (on recommendation of Col. Southall and other Gentlemen), to nurse and take every possible care of Catherine Crull's female infant, at the rate of twenty shillings a month, to be paid quarterly, or otherwise, as the executive may think fit. I do further certify that I have frequently seen the child since it was put to Mrs. West, viz., on the 7th of January last, and am convinced that due care has been taken of it.

Given under my hand this 23d of March, 1789.

WM. ROSE,
Keeper of Pub. Jail.

March 23d COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Richmond At the particular desire of Mr. Dunscomb, I enclose to your Excellency a letter he gave me last week. As I have had no particular conversation with him on its contents, I have had nothing to add by way of explanation. I have endeavoured studiously to avoid everything on my part which might either give him uneasiness or render him backward in any communications he might wish to make to me. On this principle I have consented to transmit the enclosed to you, as in every other respect I conceive myself not required to take any agency in the matter.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your Excellency's most obd't Serv't.

NOTE.—Mr. Dunscomb complains of the unauthoritative and inferior position which he occupied in Col. Davies' office, &c.

March 23d WM. LOWTHER TO GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Harrison county I have put into the hands of Majer William Robinson the Rangers' Warrants, or orders to the Treasurer for the money due for their servises, which I would take as Singler favour if you would forward Maj'r Robinson to get the same for men who have contracted for Provisions to supply the Rangers, though Confidence of Discharging the same, when this money com to hand, are likely now to Suffer on that account.

Sir, I must take leave to request the favour of you, if the money is not to be had now, to Send me a fue lines, to let me know the Earlyest time that it can be had if it is in your Power.

Sir, I do myself the honour to Subscribe myself
Your most Obedient and humble Serv'nt.

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NATHANIEL GREGORY TO THE GOVERNOR, 1789.

States that the memorandum sent to him was delivered to Mr. Bernard Webb, who promised to copy the papers. On going to the office found that the principal ones were in the possession of Col. Davis, who could not spare them immediately, &c., &c. March 26th Richmond

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AT MARCH ROCKBRIDGE COURT March 26th

John Brattan is recommended as a fit person for a Lieutenant in the room of John Gay, who is advanced, and Archibald Gay a fit person for an ensign in the room of Jno. Brattan, which is ordered to be certified. Rockbridge

A copy—Teste:

ADAM FREEMAN, *D. Cl.*

COLO. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. March 27th

Sir:

I shall wait on your Excellency before I go to New York, and receive any papers or instructions you may be pleased to favor me with. The pension account is so confusedly stated on the Auditor's books, which, indeed, are contradictory to themselves, as well as the resolutions of Assembly, that I have found an unexpected difficulty in stating it with truth. Having both the pension payments, as well as those to the requisitions now drawn off, and numbers of Vouchers found and assorted, I shall be prepared to set out as soon as the accounts and papers are completely compared, which will not take much time.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your Excellency's most obed't Serv't.

PETITION OF WM. LANTROPE, OF THE COUNTY OF PRINCE GEORGE. March 28th

Also the joint petition of Edward Bland, James Curiton, Randolph Fewqua, John Watts, James Williams, Joseph Williams, Peter Epes, jr., Praying the Governor in Council to remit the fine of Ten pounds imposed by the County Court of Prince George at the march term, 1787, on the said Wm. Lantrope for retailing liquors without license. Prince George county

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1789. EDM. RANDOLPH TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

Sir:

March 28th Williamsburg Your excellency will recollect that out of the money allotted for my expenditure on Mr. Dunscomb's accounts, I retained ten guineas for the use of Mr. Chas. Hay, who had been engaged by me in a particular service with the approbation of the board. I have spoken to that gentleman several times, and called at his house when I was last at Richmond, altho' I at that time requested thro' his sister (he being absent) that he would say something to me that I might know what to do with the money which has been by me for his use. I am not favored with an answer. Be so good as to give me your instructions on this subject.

I have the honor, Sir, to be,

With great respect,

Your excellency's mo. ob. serv.

March 28th JAS. JONES, ATTORNEY-GENERAL, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

By a return from the Keeper of the public Jail, I find the underwritten prisoners, pursuant to the district law, are to be sent by the Executive to the District Jails of New London and Dumfries. I wish to transmit a commission to John Nicholas, Esquire, to act for the State as deputy attorney of the district court to be holden at Charlottesville. I know of no private opportunity, and therefore mention this matter to the Executive, that they may determine whether an Express ought to be employed for that purpose.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, Your most ob't Serv't.

Hugh Dowdall and Susanna Dowdall, of the County of Fairfax, to be sent to Dumfries; Susanna Murphy, of the County of Henry, to be sent to New London. Willett I shall want here for the ensuing court, after which I will advise the Executive as to his further disposal.

March 29th LEIG. WOOD, JUN'R, SOLICITOR, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Permit me to present your Excellency with the enclosed memorandum of transactions performed by direction of the Governor and Council, which I must request the favour of your Excellency to lay before the Hon'ble Board for allowance, which I leave to their consideration, hoping to have your Excellency's patronage on this Occasion.

I am, most respectfully,

Sir, Your most ob't and very h'ble Serv't.

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The Commonwealth of Virginia to LEIGHTON WOOD, JR., *Dr.* 1789.

1789. Jan. 1. To examining and stating sundry accounts and claims in the course of last year by the order of the Executive, of which the following were in part: March 29th

Thomas Webb and Rawleigh Colston's accounts;

Sundry Western Bills in the hands of Col. Hite;

Sundry " ditto held by Mr. Brackenridge;

Sundry " ditto claimed by Mr. Beckley;

Thomas Gordon's acco't;

All the Foreign Creditors' Accounts;

Mr. Simon Nathan's accounts and protested Bill in the hands of Mr. Alexander;

Restating Mr. Beaumarchais' account;

And others.

AMOUNT OF SPECIE IN THE TREASURY THIS 31ST DAY OF MARCH, 1789. March 31st

After setting apart what has been directed by the Hon'bl. The Executive to be paid to the Scouts and Rangers and money reserved for the Delegates to Congress: Eight thousand five hundred pounds. [Treasurer's Report.]

HENRY LEE TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. March 31st

Sir:

Agreeable to the duty of my office, I beg leave to recommend for officers of the troop of dragoons, part of the militia of Westmoreland, the following Gentlemen: Starke Jett, esq., Captain; Willougby Newton, Esq., Lt.; and —— Crabb, Cornet.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Most Ob. h'l. Serv't.,

HENRY LEE,

County Lt. of Westmorel'd by qualification to Office on the 31st day of March, 1789.

J. AMBLER, TREASURER, TO THE GOVERNOR. March 31st

TREASURY OFFICE, 31st March, 1789.

Sir:

I request the instructions of the Hono'bl. Board what answer shall be given to Mr. Anderson respecting the public Tobacco which he was empowered to have examined and reprised. I am inclined to believe it will

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1789. March 31st be most for the interest of the State to direct the agent to go to Glouces-ter, receive the Notes and dispose of the Tobacco in that part of the Country, where probably the best price can be obtained for it. The account of sales of this Tobacco he should keep distinct from the Gen'l account, that we may be enabled to ascertain the loss on it in particular.

April 1st PAY-ROLL AND ATTENDANCE OF THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL FROM JANUARY 1ST TO MARCH 28, INCLUSIVE.

Mr. Wood, 22 days; Mr. McClurg, 20 days; Mr. Jones, 20 days; Mr. Braxton, 20 days; Mr. Heth, 16 days; Mr. Moore, 1 day; Mr. Goode, 22 days; Mr. Griffin, ——.

April 1st L. WOOD, JR., SOLICITOR, TO EDMUND RUFFIN, JR.

SOLICITOR'S OFFICE, 1st April, 1789.

Sir:

Richmond You will be pleased to take notice that on the Fourth day of the next session of the General Court, being Friday, the twelth day of June, I shall instruct the Attorney-General to move for a Judgment against you, as Colonel and next in command of the militia in the county of Prince George during the absence of the County Lieutenant, for the sum of Twenty pounds, being the forfeiture or penalty incurred by you for failing to make a General Return of the said Militia in the County aforesaid to the Governor for the year 1788, pursuant to an act of Assemply entitled An Act to amend and reduce into one act the several Laws for regulating and disciplining the militia and guarding against Invasions and Insurrections.

I am, Sir, &c.

Appended to the above Notice is the following Note by Col. Ruffin:

PRINCE GEO.

I acknowledge notice given by Turner Richardson, and do deny the absence of Col. Theo. Bland during the year 1788, and do aver that I made my Return as the law directed.

[Signed] EDMUND RUFFIN, JU'R.

Coggin's Point, May 22, 1789.

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COL. WILLIAM DAVIES TO THE GOVERNOR. 1789.

Sir:

Finding it necessary to compare the pension list with the payments prior to 1786, I have taken the return from the Council Chamber this morning, which shall be returned to-day if your Excellency desires it; for the same purpose of comparing I have taken the Treasurer's receipts. They shall both be brought with me to-morrow to the Council Chamber, agreeably to your Excellency's appointment. As this is the end of the quarter, I take this opportunity to report, in compliance with a former order of council, that, in my opinion, two of the Clerks, now in the Commissioner's Office, may be discontinued, at least for the next quarter. April 1st

I have the honor to be, &c.

PETITION OF SAMUEL PORTLOCK TO THE GOVERNOR, April 2d

Praying the remission of the fine which had been assessed against him in the General Court, on the ground of sickness and danger of loosing his eye-sight. The imposition of the fine will deprive him of the little substance he has left. Doctors James, Taylor, and Cary H. Hansford, certify to the truth of petitioner's statement as to his health.

AT A COURT HELD FOR SUSSEX COUNTY, THE 2D DAY OF APRIL, 1789, April 2d

The Court proceeded to take into consideration the state and condition of the following Pensioners: Eve Clark, widow of John Clark, who died in the 15th Virginia Regiment, is a resident of this County, hath three children with her, the eldest of which is 16, and is in necessitous circumstances. Sarah Stacy, widow of Simon Stacy, who died in the 15th Virginia Regiment, is a resident of this County, hath one child with her, about twelve years of age, and is in necessitous circumstances, and she is said to be an infirm person, not well able to labour. Susannah Rawlings, widow of Howell Rawlings, who died in the 15th Virginia Regiment, is a resident of this County, hath two children with her, one of which is an idiot, and in necessitous circumstances. Mary Roland, widow of William Roland, who died in the 15th Virginia Regiment, is a resident of this County, hath three children with her between the age of thirteen and nine, and is in necessitous circumstances, and is said to be a very infirm person. Susanna Roland, widow of Burwell Roland, who died in the 15th Virginia Regiment, is a resident of this County, hath one child with her, which is unable to do any kind of service, and is in necessitous circumstances. Sarah Wilkerson, widow of Thomas Wilkerson, who died in the 15th Virginia Regiment, is a resident of this County, and is disabled in one of her arms; that she is not able to labour, and is in necessitous circum-

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1789. April 2d stances. William Wilburn, a private in Buford's detachment, is a resident of this County, and is still as unable to labour as formerly, and is in necessitous circumstances.

Copy—Test:

MICH'L BAILEY, *C. S. C.*

All of the above-named persons are on the present pension list.

T. M.

April 3d Henrico

CAPT. SAMUEL COLEMAN TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

On account of the improbability of recovering his health, tenders the resignation of his office and his thanks for the politeness with which he had been treated by his Excellency and the members of the Council. Leaves his case with his Excellency and their honors, hoping that if any further indulgence can be granted with propriety, he may receive it, although he can hardly expect it.

Virginia—to-wit:

At a District Court held at the Capitol, in the City of Richmond, the third day of April, 1789, Absalom Allard, late of the parish of ——, in the county of Hanover, labourer, who stands convicted of horse-stealing, and Agness Smith, late of the parish of ——, in the county of Henrico, spinster, who stands convicted of murder, were this day severally sentenced by the court to be hanged by the Sheriff of Henrico county, on Friday, the eighth day of May next, between the hours of ten in the forenoon and two in the afternoon of the same day, at the usual place of execution.

Teste: J. BROWN, *C. C.*

April 4th

AT A COURT HELD FOR CUMBERLAND COUNTY,

The 26th of January, 1789, Creed Taylor, Gent., is recommended to the Executive as a proper person to execute the office of Coroner in this County. This was done on the resignation of Colo. J. Carrington.

A copy—Teste:

MILLER WOODSON, *C'lk.*

April 4th

STATEMENT OF TURNER SOUTHALL,

That John Darby was ordered by the County Court of Henrico to serve six months in the army (1781), but was afterwards put under the directions of Sam'l Arnald, and imployed in building Boats for public use, and after the expiration of the time within mentioned he was discharged.

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ACCOUNT OF GEORGE RICE, 1789.

Late Ass't to Q. Master at Albemarle Barracks, against the Commonwealth of Virginia, including the account of Vincent Tapp against the said George Rice : April 4th

"To my services and travelling expenses in collecting and stating the supplies that was furnished by the Commonwealth of Virginia to the Continental Post at the Albemarle Barracks, £15. 0. 0."

RICHARD GERNON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH, April 4th

Requesting that the Governor and Council will issue an order to the Auditor to issue W'tts in the name of Oliver Pollock, for the amount of the bill of 12,200 D'll'rs, with interest and damages, &c. Accompanying this letter will be found the resolution of the General Assembly respecting Mr. Pollock's claims.

REPORT OF T. MERRIWETHER TO THE GOVERNOR, ON POINT OF FORK. April 6th

Upon an examination of the last quarterly Returns, Pay-Rolls, &c., of the Superintendent at the Point of Fork, I find them fair and accurate.

Seventy-two Pounds twelve shillings are due to the Guard. A ballance of £121. 6. 2. is due to the Superintendent and Artificers. The term for which the Artificers were engaged expired on the 1st instant. The Superintendent is of opinion they may be engaged on lower terms than heretofore. Inclosed is an estimate of clothing wanted for the Guard for the current year. This clothing may be paid for out of the money which will come into the superintendent's hands from the sale of the Public Negroes, if the Executive think proper so to direct.

£52. 18. ½. remains in the Superintendent's hands for the purchase of Flints,

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M. DEMARBOIS TO THE GOVERNOR (IN FRENCH). April 6th

Respecting a protested bill of exchange, the amount of which M. Oster Philadelphia is authorized to receive and execute an acquittance.

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1789. J. MADISON TO THE GOVERNOR,

April 7th Williamsburg

Sir:

The exigencies for the Hospital for Lunaties make it necessary to apply to ye Executive, in order to obtain the money requisite for its support. We hope you will be pleased to direct the sum of £200 to be advanced, or such other part of ye Balance of the sum voted for ye use of ye Hospital as to your Hon'l. Board shall seem most expedient.

I have ye honor to be

Y'r Excellency's most obed't Ser't.

April 10th PETITION OF V. MINOR, JNO. HOOMES, GEO. BUCKNER, JR., PEYTON STERN, AND ROBERT GILCHRIST,

Caroline county

Justices of the peace for Caroline County, represent that they were present at the trial of Tom, a negro man slave, the property of William Durritt, now under sentence of death for larceny; that the said slave is a young man, discovering a deep sense of the wickedness of his crime, and sincere penitence for the same. For these reasons (this being his first Offence) they recommend him to Executive clemency.

April 11th CAPT. E. LANGHAM TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Richmond

Sir:

I have been with each of the Hon'ble members of the executive. They are willing to join in recommending me to Congress for an appointm't in the department of military stores when established by Congress. I judge that it is a departm't that will come under their notice among the first. I therefore wish to signify my intentions in time. If you can with propriety join in recommending me, be so obliging to mention the matter to your Hon'ble board on Monday, and if a recommendation is agreed to, Colo. Meriwether will receive and forward it for me. I do not mean by making this application for an appointm't under the United States to give up the appointm't I now hold until I receive another, unless it should be the wish of those to whom I am indebted for the appointment.

I have the honor to be with due respect, &c.

April 12th HENRY BANKS TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Richmond

Sir:

For several years I made unsuccessful applications to Mr. William Armistead, formerly agent of the State, to adjust and finally ascertain the balance of an acc't which is inclosed and submitted to the Hon'ble Executive in answer to an application to the Solicitor. I am inform'd that in such cases the reference is made to him by the Board, wherefore I shall make no other comment on the acc't, &c. The acc't referred to not found among the papers.

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WM. ROSE, K. D. J., TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. 1789.

Reminds the Governor that Littlebury Cotton is in his Custody, charged with Horse-stealing. Has no commitment, nor can find any proceedings at Mr. Brown's Office. Has no Papers relative to his case but the Inclosure from Mr. Gray. April 13th

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THOMAS LILLY TO BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. April 13th

Sir:

Inclosed you will receive a bond on account of six shares of prize-money purchased by Mr. Wm. Trebett and myself of Nehemiah Somes, Lieut. of the Brig Liberty, Thomas Herbert, Commander. You will oblige me much by writing a line or two on the subject to the care of the Rev'd J. Bracken, W'msburg, and if the money can be got in any short time.

Y'r mo. Obed. Serv't.

GENERAL RETURN OF THE MILITIA OF OHIO COUNTY, BY DAVID SHEPHERD, COUNTY-LIEUTENANT. April 17th

1 Colonel, 1 Lieut't-Colonel, 1 Major, 10 Capt's, 10 Lieutenants, 10 Ensigns, 29 Sergeants, 3 Corporals, 7 Drummers and Fifers, 545 Effective [men] rank and file, 263 good guns.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT AND QUERIES. April 18th

All arrearages of Taxes previous to 1787, paid in aggregate fund, Warr'ts chiefly, Do. of Do., for 1787, paid in Tob'o chiefly, and some warrants. Qu.—Whether the £10 of the whole to be applied to sinking fund and paid in Tobacco; whether the agent for sale of Tob'o had not better be directed to pay the £10 of the produce of Tobacco sold by him to the agent of the sinking fund.

JOHN WILSON TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL. April 18th

Sir:

I have attended here, from the county of Randolph, with the Auditor's Warrant, and an order from Capt. James Westfall, who commanded the company of Rangers in the aforesaid County during the last year, and upon application to the Treasurer was informed that there was money in hand for that company, but that he was restrained from making a payment to me on the vouchers produced, in consequence of a Richmond

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1789. April 18th Resolve of your Hon'ble Board, which required that the Auditor's warrant should be accompanied with an order from the county-Lieutenant. Of this circumstance I beg leave to assure your Hon'ble Board neither the County-Lieutenant, Captain, or myself, had any information or knowledge under those circumstances, and our pressing exigency for money, as also the remoteness of situation, I am embolden to solicit your interposition and aid in obtaining an order on the Treas'r for whatever sum there may be alloted to the discharge of the Warrant and order in my hand.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Mo. Ob. H'ble Servant.

April 18th Cumberland

MAYO CARRINGTON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Yours of the 6th instant came to hand in due time, and I have observed the contents. I can find the Original deed of only one of the tracts of land purchased by the Trustees for the Buckingham furnace, and have procured copies of the others, five in number, from the Clerk of Buckingham. All of them are inclosed. I am informed by Mr. Nicholas that the orginal deeds were delivered by my father to Mr. Jefferson in the time of his chief magistracy. I also inclose a memorandum, signed by Jerman Baker, of the purchase of the Slaves, and Mrs. Byrd's receipt for the payment of the purchase money, which are all the papers that I can find respecting that part of the property. One of those slaves, by the name of Johnny, was sold a few years past by Execution to satisfy a debt of Reveley's, and the purchaser has since removed him to Georgia; four others were lately sold in the same manner for another debt of Reveley's. The Sheriff informs me that the terms of the sale were that they should be delivered by the purchaser whenever they should be demanded by the public. The names of those four I have not been able to procure, and where the sixth is I have yet to learn. I find among the papers of the furnace sundry bills of sale for horses, waggons and gear, by which they were conveyed to the public in the same manner the lands were, but none of that species of property is now to be found, being all destroyed or made away with by Mr. Reveley. If the Executive shall think proper that an immediate demand should be made of those slaves, I will readily undertake it on having directions to that effect.

I am y'r mo. Ob't Servant.

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DISTRICT OF SOUTH POTOWMACK, PORT OF YEOCOMICO. 1789.

Return of Totals of Exports of Tobacco from the 20th of January, 1789, to the 20th of April Following. Number of Hhds. From Each Warehouse: Yeocomico, 13; Coan, 67; Dumfries, 31; Aquia, 50; Leed's, 17; Mattox, 67; Roy's, 16. Cat point, 32; Quantico, 39; Bowler's, 10; Gibson's, 3; Dixon's, 11; Urbanna, 7; Roytson's, 8; Boid's hole, 10; Hobb's hole, 9; Wecomico, 40; Fredericksburg, 20. April 20th

CHARLES LEE, *Naval Officer.*

AT A COURT-MARTIAL HELD AT AMELIA COURT-HOUSE THIS 22D DAY OF APRIL, 1789, April 22d

For the trial of Col. Paulin Anderson, of the first Battallion of Militia, as by order of his Excellency the Governor in Council, now under an arrest for endeavouring to prevail on Charles Hodges to take a false Oath in order to screen him, the said Anderson, from paying a fine on account of his being presented by the grand Jury. Present: Gabriel Fowlkes, Colo., President; Edmund Booker, Lie't-Colo.; John Royall, Jun'r, Major; Moses Craddock, Thomas Elmore, Archer Jones, Freeman Eppes, William Jennings and Abraham Marshall, Captains; Philip Williams, Anderson Freeman, James Dupee, and Thomas Overton, Lieut'ts.

Ordered, That Luke Watson be clerk to this Court.

The Prisoner, after hearing the arrest read, denied the charge, and no witness appearing to prove it, the court are of opinion that he be discharged from the arrest.

Ordered, That the President transmit a copy of the proceedings of this Court to the Governor.

[Signed] GABRIEL FOWLKES, *Pres'd't.*

LUKE WATSON, *Cl'k.*

Approved:

BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

April 30th, 1789.

JUDGES J'S MERCER AND RICH'D PARKER TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. April 22d

Sir:

We do ourselves the honour of informing your Excellency of our arrival at this District, having finished the sessions holden at Staunton and Charlottesville. We have, however, the mortification of advising your Excellency that one criminal has been condemned to die at the sessions holden at Charlottesville. His name is George Bird; his offence horse- Fredericksburg

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1789. April 22d stealing; he was sentenced on the 16th Instant, and is to be executed on the 5th day of June next. As he was sentenced to die, we need not say we approved of the verdict of the Jury, and we are sorry to add that we can offer nothing in mitigation of the Law. He is a native of Caroline County, and his character best known there, and is the same person who was accused at the last October General Court of the Crime similar to that for which he is now sentenced to die, as an accomplice with a William Chiles Tyrrell, whose conviction and pardon will inform you of all that we know of Bird's Character.

We have the honour to be your Excellency's
most obed. and very hu'ble Servants.

April 23d L. WOOD, Jr., SOLICITOR, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

SOLICTOR'S OFFICE, 23d April 1789.

Sir:

Richmond Agreeable to former instructions of the Executive, I now inclose your Excellency a state of the principal delinquent sheriffs, in order that I may receive instructions to issue other processes and thereby prevent the operation of the late law, so far as to the release of Property taken in execution to satisfie the arrears of Taxes. It gives me, sir, much concern to find it has not been in my power to prepare this business sooner, as the first of June is too near at hand, to admit any process now issued to have a suitable effect. There are a number of other cases in the same situation with those laid before you, altho' the balances are but small, and, in some instances, the executions are not returned, so that it cannot be known whether property is taken or not.

In the present extraordinary and perilous situation of this business, occassioned by improper words in the law and the want of time to prevent its effects by the absolute issuing of Processes, which, had this and no other business been attended to immediately after passing this law, could scarcely have been effected in every case, for the stating the matters for the Executive's consideration, the preparing *venditioni Exponas's* in the Clerk's office, stating the accounts and calculating Interest, to ascertain the balances due before the first of June, as also what would be due after that day, the endorsement of these several balances and the sending out the Processes, so as that they should have been in the Officer's hand in time to carry them into execution, could not have been done. I would, therefore, beg leave to suggest to your Excellency whether the evil attendant on this act of assembly, if left to operate in its full force, may not be prevented in some measure by the executive's giving instructions to the following purport: That after the first of June, or at such time as Executions can issue, the proceedings should be pursuant to those already had, either on bond, Exp., or Distringas, and with submission I apprehend this order would be as effectual to the wished-for purpose as the absolute issuing of

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Processes before the 1st of June. The attorney seems to ground his opinion of the Executive power, to prevent the operation of the law, on their making special direction for issuing an execution, and that the interference of the Executive suspends the effect of the Law. He does not say the actual issuing of a Process to be necessary, consequently if such instructions be given at any time previous to the 1st of June, it may and can be complied with when time will permit, as the arrival of that day will not, I imagine, prevent obedience to such orders, and it is notorious that the word "Execution" is very frequently used as comprehending in it the various kind of Process issued after judgment. I further apprehend that the latitude of the Executive authority is sufficient for them to interfere, even without the attorney's opinion, in cases where any act of Assembly will, by a misapplication of words, or the want of proper ones, operate to a manifest prejudice of the Commonwealth and emolument, perhaps, of individuals, &c., &c. 1789. April 23d

The Solicitor appends the following Report on Delinquent Sheriffs: Judgment *vs.* Sir John Peyton, Sheriff of Gloucester County, for £3,232. 7. 8d.; Judgment *vs.* Stephen Ruddle, Sheriff of Hampshire, for £610. 12. 6. 2., Revenue Tax of 1782; Judgment *vs.* Garland Anderson, Sheriff of Hanover, for £2,939. 2. 9½., revenue Tax of 1782; Judgment *vs.* Robt. Jones, Sheriff of Sussex County, for £1,888. 10. 6d., for Revenue Tax of 1782; Judgment *vs.* Grass Scruggs, Sheriff of Bedford County, for £2,062. 0. 6d., Revenue of 1783; Judgment *vs.* Wm. McClenachan, for £2,299. 19. 9½d., Revenue of 1783; Judgment *vs.* John Slaughter, Sheriff of Culpeper, for £1,212. 8. 0¾d., Rev. 1783; Judgment *vs.* Sir John Peyton, Sh'ff of Gloucester, for £4,218. 9. 10½., Rev. 1783; Judgment *vs.* John Harris, Sh'ff of Powhatan, for £1,642. 4. 9d., and 665 lbs. Tobacco, Rev. 1783; Judgment *vs.* John Thomas, Sh'ff of Rockingham, for £1,636. 12. 1d., Rev. 1783; Judgment *vs.* Robt. Jones, Sh'ff of Sussex County, for £898. 7. 9d., Rev. 1783; Judgment *vs.* Henry Whiting, Sheriff of Berkley, for £851. 17. 11d., one p. cent. '84; Judgment *vs.* John Dixon, Sh'ff of Gloucester, for £495. 8. 4½d., one p. cent. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Abram Shelton, Sh'ff of Pittsylvania, for £372. 13. 6d., one p. cent. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Wm. Bowyer, Sh'ff of Augusta County, for 1,992. 1 4., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Wm. Callaway, Sh'ff of Bedford, for £1,932. 18. 2., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Patrick Lockhart, Sh'ff of Bottetourt, for £1,014. 7. 11., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* John Johns, Sh'ff of Buckingham, for £967. 11., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* James Barbour, Sh'ff of Culpeper, for £1,786, Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* John Dixon, Sh'ff of Gloucester, for 3,749. 10. 1d., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Stephen Sampson, Sh'ff of Goochland, for £145. 12. 4., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Geddis Winston, Sh'ff of Hanover, for £3,477. 4. 2½d., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Abram Penn, Sh'ff of Henry, for £953. 6. 3½, Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Tho. Johnson, Sh'ff of Louisa, for 2,752. 0. 4d., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Solomon Shepard, Sh'ff of Nansemond, for £1,454. 4. 10d., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Abram Shelton, Sh'ff of Pittsylvania, for £1,885. 5. 9d., Rev. 1784;

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1789. April 23d

Judgment *vs.* Rich'd Graham, Sh'ff of Prince Wm. for £1,889. 5. 3½d., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Alex'r Macher, Sh'ff of Shenandoah, for £313. 16. 3d., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* David Mason, Sh'ff of Sussex, for £644. 10. 7d., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* William Callaway, Sh'ff of Bedford, for £1,768. 11. 5d., Rev. 1785; Judgment *vs.* Pat. Lockhart, Sh'ff of Botetourt, for £1,112. 18. 11d., Rev. 1785; Judgment *vs.* Sam'l Hawes, Sh'ff of Caroline, for £693. 18. 10d., Rev. 1785; Judgment *vs.* James Barbour, Sh'ff of Culpeper, for £544. 4. 10d., Rev. 1785; Judgment *vs.* Jno. Whiting, Sh'ff of Gloucester, for £2,280. 16. 9½., Rev. 1785; Judgment *vs.* Stephen Sampson, Sh'ff of Goochland, for £302. 19. 4d., Rev. 1785; Judgment *vs.* John Laurance, Sh'ff of Hanover, for £1,131. 17. 10d., Rev. 1785; Judgment *vs.* Abram Penn, Sh'ff of Henry, for £1,209. 0. 0. 3¼d., Rev. 1785; Judgment *vs.* Lawrance Baker, Sh'ff of Isle of Wight, for £1,588. 16. 3½d., Rev. 1785; Judgment *vs.* Morgan Morgan, Sh'ff of Berkeley, for £3,839. 18. 4d., Rev. 1786; Judgment *vs.* Henry Bell, Sh'ff of Buckingham, for £573. 6. 4d., Rev. 1786; Judgment *vs.* John Callaway, Sh'ff of Campbell, for £2,127. 6. 6d., Rev. 1786; Judgment *vs.* Turner Richardson, Sh'ff of Fluvanna, for £633. 9. 8¾d., Rev. 1786; Judgment *vs.* John Whiting, Sh'ff of Gloucester, for £3,171. 17., Rev. 1786; Judgment *vs.* Lawrance Baker, Sh'ff of Isle of Wight, for £3,274. 7. 3d., Rev. 1786; Judgment *vs.* John Houston, Sh'ff of Rockbridge, for £1,040. 6. 8d., Rev. 1786; Judgment *vs.* Thomas Allen, Sheriff of Shenandoah, for £282. 1. 6d., Rev. 1786; Judgment *vs.* Wm. A. Washington, Sh'ff of Westmoreland, for £1,950. 18. 8½d., Rev. 1786; Judgment *vs.* Philemon Holcomb, Sh'ff of Prince Edward, for £1,768. 13. 5d., Rev. 1784; Judgment *vs.* Wm. Call, Sh'ff of Prince George, for £1,362. 9. 10d., Rev 1786.

In many of the above cases the executions were repeatedly suspended, and in nearly every case, where property was exposed to sale, the executions were returned with the endorsement: "Not sold for the want of bidders.

April 23d

WM. ROSE, K. P. J.,

Informs the Governor that Mr. Ammonett is willing to undertake the carrying Littlebury Cotton to the District Jail at Petersburg, and the Governor requests Col. Merriwether to employ him for that purpose.

April 23d

COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

New York Colonel Davies' arrival at New York

I arrived here yesterday, the roads being much worse than I expected owing to a heavy rain that fell the day before I set out and another on Monday last. Immediately after my arrival I delivered your Excellency's despatches, with the accounts they refer, to the Senators and Representa-

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tives of Virginia; but Mr. Madison tells me they cannot be taken up yet, and, indeed, I fear there may be some delay with respect to the more immediate object of my appointment, tho' upon my solicitation he has consented to go into an examination of my papers this morning to see if anything can be done in the business, as at present the lower house seem wholly engrossed with an impost bill, and, indeed, the attention of everybody seems so taken up in preparing to receive the President of the United States, who comes in at twelve this day, that very little business is done. Mr. Baldwin, one of the board of three, has taken his seat in congress, and therefore cannot act as one of the board. I waited on General Irvine, another of that board, who seems dissatisfied with the conduct of the Continental commissioner, who, he tells me, left town immediately after delivering up his papers, without making any report, as the Ordinance required. From this circumstunce I apprehend Mr. Winder must have been rather doubtful of the propriety of his own conduct. I have not yet presented to the board of treasury the account against the requisitions, but shall to-day, tho' probably nothing will be done with it for some time. As the mail goes out this morning, I thought it proper to give you information of the safe arrival of the papers entrusted to me and of my prospects. 1789. April 23d

I have the honor to be, Sir, [&c.]

H. KNOX, SECRETARY OF WAR, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. April 25th

WAR OFFICE, April 25th, 1789.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's favor of the 2d instant, enclosing a list of pensioners chargeable by Virginia to the United States.

I have the honor to be, with the highest repect,

Your Excellency's Most obed't and very humble Serv't.

JOHN EVANS, COUNTY-LIEUTENANT OF MONONGALIA, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. April 25th

Gentlemen:

On the 23d Instant the Indians commited Hostilities on the frontiers of this County, kiled a Capt. William Thomas, Joseph Cambridge and wife and two children, on Dunker Creek, which has alarmed the people in such a degree as to occation them to apply to me for assistance. And although his Excellencie's last Instructions set forth that they were induced to believe that from our geographical situation we should be secured, or protected by the neighbouring Fronteer counties, which inducement I am afraid has been from the information of some designing persons who know not the situation of our Country, or rather Monongalia county

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1789. April 25th wished to prejudice the country by having it left to the ravages of a cruel Savage Enemy. I have made bold to order Six Scouts out on the present situation, and am oblige to send Express to know your Excellencie's orders on the occation. I hope your Honors will not think hard in my taking the liberty of ordering that number of Scouts until your farther pleasure is known. I beg leave to request that at least a Lieut.'s command may be ordered on the fronteers, as less by no means will anser; and if I might be permited, a Capt.'s command is rather insufficient, tho' that Number secured in the last season by their being divided In three parties, as there is three principal passes where the Indians travel on which must be covered to defend our County.

I have the honor to be, your Excellencie's
Most Obed't Hum'e Serv't.

P. S.—If your Honor thinks proper to order any number of Rangers, I must earnestly request that the number of Scouts may be allowed, as the situation of our County requires that number, which may well be known by any impartial person who is acquainted.

J. E.

April 25th

WM. MCCLEERY TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Morgans-town

An express came here this morning with the disagreable news of the Indians having committed hostilities on one of our frontier settlements on the 23d of this instant. Two parties attacked nearly about the same time two families on Dunker Creek, about 20 to 25 miles from this place, and killed one man out of one, and the man, his wife, and two children, which was the whole of the other family. The alarm given to the frontiers of this County generally by this murder, hath become very serious, and unless some speedy assistance is given, I am something of opinion that the Monongahalah River, which runs by this place, will be our frontier line in a short time. I have been informed that it hath been suggested to you that the settlements in Ohio and Harrison Counties sufficiently covered this county, but I hope you will pardon me when I assure you that it is not so, and that whosoever made that report is entirely unacquainted with the Geography of this country, for the lowest settlements in Ohio County, of any account, is on the River Ohio, at Graves' Creek, which lies to the North of West from us, and the nighest settlement of Harrison County to that is 50 to 60 miles, and which lies nearly south from this place, at the distance of 35 to 40 miles, leaving an uninhabited country of the above extent open to the depredations of the savage, and surely it can never be the design of Government to suffer any of the good citizens of this Commonwealth, whereever situated, to fall a sacrifice to a savage or any other enemy while possessed of the power and means to prevent it; for would it not be rational to conclude that the Inhabitants of this Common'th, who

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enjoy peace and Tranquility in their respective habitations, will cheerfully contribute their proportion of the expence that it wou'd take to pay and support a company of Rangers for the protection of their suffering brethren, who are keeping up and, as far as they are able, defending a frontier for them. *A frontier* which must be supported somewhere, should we be inadequate to the task of defending this. And now, sir, to you we look for assistance, and we trust Council will grant us such relief as they in their wisdom may think right and proper. The County Liutenant believes it to be his duty to send an express to you for your further instruction in this business before he proceeds to greater lengths, more than to send out some spies, just to keep the people together, who are now Just upon the flight and only waits to hear the resolves of Council concerning them, which, if favourable, as I trust it will, they will, for choice, keep possession of the country and try to make bread for their families. 1789. April 25th

I have the honor to be, with great regard,
y'r Excellencie's mo. ob't Serv't.

JAS. JONES, ATT'Y-GENERAL, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. April 26th

Sir:

I send to the Executive the enclosed letter from the Sheriff of the Isle of Wight, as I think to that hon'bl. board it ought first to have been addressed. Its contents are worthy the notice of the highest department of Government. The Isle of Wight is comprehended within the district of Suffolk, in which I mean to practice, and will take care to carry into effect any instructions within my official line which your Excellency may think proper to direct respecting the subject of Mr. Herring's letter. The removal of E. Willett, a felon, at present in the public jail, to the district of Fredericksburg, I would wish to be postponed for some reasons, which, at a proper season, I will communicate to the Executive.

I have the honor to be, respectfully,
Y'r most ob't Ser't,

PETITION OF ANN CRITTENTON TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL, April 29th

To release her husband, William Crittenton, from confinement, as his labour is necessary to her support, and it appearing that he has seen his folly and reformed his life.

AMELIA COUNTY, 29TH APRIL, 1789. April 29th

Rich'd Jones, Jun'r, one of the Commissioners appointed to run the dividing line between the counties of Amelia and Nottoway, certifies that

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1789. April 29th in run'ing the dividing line between the Counties of Amelia and Nottoway, that William Cross Craddock, his Lands were left on the North side of the said line, fixing him and his Tenements in the County of Amelia, which said line was approved by the Court of the County of Amelia at a Court held for the said County on Friday, the 24th instant.

April 30th AT A COURT-MARTIAL,

Held for New Kent County, fines imposed on Reuben Sneed for failing to attend a General Muster in 1787 and a petty Muster in 1789.

April 30th TREASURY OFFICE, 30 APRIL, 1789.

Amount of Specie in the Treasury on the 30th of April, 1789, £9,500.

J. AMBLER, [*Treasurer.*]

April 30th AT A COURT-MARTIAL HELD IN NEW KENT COUNTY THE 30TH OF APRIL, 1789,

Augustine Denneuville is fined ten shillings for not attending a petty muster, and also Ten Shillings for not attending a Regimental Muster.

Teste: JAMES POINDEXTER, *C. C. M.*

A copy: L. WILKINSON, *Sh'f.*

April 30th A. DUNSCOMB TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

Enclosing a letter from R'd Yarbrough, of Surry County, and one from Charles Russell, of Blanford, relating to delinquent commissioners, commissaries, and others.

April 30th MERCER COUNTY, APRIL COURT, 1789.

Ordered, That Anthony Crockett, Gentleman, be recommended to his Excellency the Governor as a proper person to be commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel of the Militia for this county, and James Ray, Gentleman, Major; Abraham Chaplain, Henry Wilson, Jobe Hail, and John Cochran, Gent., Captains; James Hannah, John Caldwell, and Daniel Ashby, Gentlemen, Lieutenants; and John Miles, Edward Willis, and Robert Pogue, Gent., Ensigns.

A copy—Teste: THO. ALLEN, *C. C.*

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BENJ. HARRISON, COUNTY LIEUT. OF ROCKINGHAM, 1789.

Reports the Militia of his County to consist of 2 Col's, 1 Major, 14 Capt's, 11 Lieut's, 8 Ensigns, 40 Serg'ts, 17 Corporals, 4 Drum's, 1 fifer, 721 Rank and file fit for duty. Cavelry: 1 Capt., 1 Lieut., 1 Cornet, 3 Sarg'ts, 33 effective privates. Total, 858. April 30th

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JOHN BOWYER, COUNTY LIEUT. OF ROCKBRIDGE, April 30th

Makes a general return of the Militia of his County for the year 1789, together with a return of arms, ammunition and accoutrements: Regiments, 1; County Lieutenant, 1; Col., 1; Lieut.-Col., 1; Maj'r, 1; Capt's, 16; Lieut's, 16; Ensigns, 16; Serg'ts, 46; Drummers and Fifers, 5; Rank and file, 708; Arms and Ammunition, Drums and Colours. Captains: Caruthers, Wm. Paxton, Jr., Willson, Weir, Jameson, Wm. Paxton, Walker, Campbell, Gay, McKee, McNabb, Berkley, Moore, Lyle, Alexander, Sheils of the Militia Cavalry.

WILLIAM WILLSON RECOMMENDED AT APRIL ROCKBRIDGE COURT April 30th

As Captain in the room of Capt. Sam'l McNabb, dec'd, and Thos. Crawford in the room of William Willson, Ensign, who is advanced.

IN COUNCIL, APRIL 30TH, 1789. April 30th

The Solicitor will cancel the bond given by Messrs. Sam'l Burke and William Smith for twenty-seven Pounds, ten Shillings, for the duty on Eleven hundred and eleven gallons of French Brandy, imported in the schooner Priscilla from Baltimore, as the s'd Burke and Smith, had they taken up the bond, would have been entitled to reimbursement agreeable to an act passed on the 8th of Jan'y, 1788, to amend the act to impose certain duties.

JOS. FOSTER, SAM'L MARK, W. ARMISTEAD, BENEDICT CRUMP, G. WILKINSON, JR., GEO. B. POINDEXTER AND NATH'L L. SAVAGE, A MAJORITY OF THE JUSTICES OF NEW KENT COUNTY, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH, May 1st

Enclosing a certificate of the Clerk of the County that the said justices are a majority in commission; and also a copy of the order of Court, March, 1789, making certain recommendations:

Sir:

We, being a majority of the acting Justices of the county of New Kent, was unanimously of opinion that Mr. Wm. H. Macon and Captain

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1789. May 1st Lyddall Wilkinson be recommended to your Excellency as proper persons to act as County Lieutenant and Colo. of Militia for the said County, as record will more fully show. Since, have been informed you will not commission them, wishing to know our reasons why those who are now in commission do not take rise agreeable to seniority. In consequence thereof, we have taken the liberty to send them. Colo. Jno. Bacon, we are informed, wished not to be raised any higher; and, also, we conceive him to be a very Indolent and Inattentive officer. Maj'r John Hockarday was summoned to attend the Court Martial. His answer was, "He should not come," and saying their would not be a court without him, fine was Imposed on him, and ordered to be collected. He bid defiance, and dared any Sheriff or Collector to take his property at their peril for the said fine.

We have the honor to be, Sir,
Y'r Ex'ly's Mo. Ob't H'ble Serv't.

May 1st The recommendations of Court, March, 1789, are as follows:

William Hartwell Macon, Gent., to execute the office of County Lieutenant; Lyddall Wilkinson to execute the office of Colonel; George Wilkinson, Jun'r, Gent., to execute the office of Captain; Parke Wilkinson, Lieutenant, and Pleasant Crump, ensign. William Chamberlayne to execute the office of Captain; James Semple, Lieutenant, and Ellyson Martin, ensign.

WILLIAM CLAYTON, *C. C.*

May 1st WM. RUSSELL TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Williamsburg I have the honor to inclose you a Report made of the State of the public Jail here pursuant to an order of the District Court. I beg leave to observe that, in December last, the Common Hall of this City relinquished to the public that right which the Legislature had sometime before given them in the Capitol Square in this City, and the buildings thereon, in consequence thereof the District Court was, by the law, directed to be holden there, and the Clerk ordered to keep his office at the Courthouse. The House formerly used as the Secretary's Office, being one of the buildings on the square, and the most proper for an office, I wish to use for this purpose, but I am prevented by a person who is at present in it (one Philip Bidgood), who refuses to give it up, altho' he pays no Rent, nor was he put there under any authority. Upon application to the Court I am directed by them to apply to the Executive. I have to request, Sir, that such order may be made in this business as to your Board may seem proper, and that I may be directed in what manner I am to proceed to possess myself of the House which I much want for an Office.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Resp't, &c.

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GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH TO GENERAL WOOD. 1789.

Dear Sir:

I have deposited in the usual place all the public Papers which have come to my Hands since the last meeting of the Council. Among them is the Treasurer's monthly state of the Cash in the Treasury. As the amount is considerably larger than has been yet reported, upon conversing with the Treasurer, I thought I might with propriety advise him to add another sum of two thousand Pounds to the one formerly directed to be set apart for the legal appropriations. I must beg the favour of you to present this subject to the Council, and if they agree with me in opinion, to have an entry made to this effect. On examining the Journal of the last day's proceedings, I find that Mr. Blair has omitted to make the entry respecting the advance of £10 to each of the persons employed to collect vouchers in support of the Commonswealth's acc. *vs.* the U. S. I will thank you to attend to this matter, and at the same time to inform the Board that I this day directed a warrant on the contingent fund for £10 in favour of Wm. Price, one of the persons appointed for the purpose of collecting Vouchers.

May 2d Richmond

I am, with regard, Y'r Ob't Serv't.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE May 2d

Within the limits of Amelia County, agreeable to the line run between Amelia and Nottoway Counties: John Tabb, Edmund Booker, John Booker, Vivian Brooking, Henry Anderson, John Rice, Edmund Booker, Jun'r, John Oglesby, William Craddock, Rich'd Oglesby, John Royall, Davis Booker, William Walkhur, Thomas P. Overton.

Given under our Hands this 2d May, 1789.

EDM'D BOOKER,
DAVIS BOOKER.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE May 2d

Within the limits of Nottoway County, agreeable to the line run between Nottoway and Amelia Counties: Stephen Cocke, Peter Lamkin, Samuel Sherwin, William Cryer, Rawley Carter, William Greenhill, Peter Randolph, Abner Osborn, William Yates.

Given under our Hands this 2d May, 1789.

EDM'D BOOKER,
DAVIS BOOKER.

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1789. AT A COURT HELD FOR LANCASTER COUNTY THE 21ST APRIL, 1789,

May Lawson Hathaway is recommended to his Excellency, the Governor, as a proper person to act as Captain of the first militia company of this county in the room of Captain Thomas Carter, who has resigned. John Lawson is recommended as a proper person to act as Ensign in the room of James Pollard, in the same company, who has resigned. James Sanders is recommended as a proper person to act as Ensign in the fifth militia company in this county, in the room of Elijah Percifull, resigned.

Copy—Test:

JAMES GORDON, *Clk.*

The above recommendations enclosed to the Executive by James Gordon, C. L. L. C., through the bearer, Mr. Martin Shearman.

May 3d JAS. BARNETT TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH,

Amherst States that Mr. John Moran will present [him] with an account* of the service of a commissary in Madison County, which passed the Executive about the twenty-seventh of March last. The Auditers of publick accounts did not conceive that the Order of Council comprehended said acc't. The said Mr. Anderson is a worthy young man, and to my knowledge performed the service. Hopes his Excellency will consider him.

May 4th COL. JOHN BACON TO MR. THOMAS MERIWETHER.

Sir:

New Kent Agreeable to your request, with respect to the recommendation of Mr. Wm. H. Macon and Mr. Lyddall Wilkinson, lately made by the Court of this County, I am herein to inform you of some circumstances of that business, as I did not wish to hold any other commission than that which I now have. I moved the court to supply the vacancies then subsisting in the Militia, and accordingly did then agree to waive my right of promotion. Major Hockaday was not present at that time. I have since seen him, and he informed me that the Court had treeted him with much contempt, without assigning any reason for so doing, in overlooking him in the recommendation, as he had never signified any intention of waving his right. Captain Holt, also, who was the oldest Captain, has expressed displeasure concerning the recommendation, and has since given up his commission in consequence thereof. The Court were by myself justified in their proceeding so far as it respected me, but what could be there motives in passing over those other two gentlemen,

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*Acc't missing.

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who appear to have been next entitled to the appointments, I cannot devise, and must, with yourself, be of opinion that the Recommendation was irregular. I herewith enclose an order of a Court Martial for feining Major Hockaday, who wishes to have it reheard before the Executive. 1789. May 4th

I am, Sir, your most obed't serv't.

THO. GASKINS TO LEIGHTON WOOD, ESQ. May 5th

Sir:

Yesterday I received two notices from you—one that you should instruct the Attorney-General to move against me as County Lieutenant for the penalty of One hundred pounds incurred by my not accounting for the Militia fines or other monies which have come into my hands by virtue of my office as County Lieutenant. As no fines or any other publick money has ever come into my hands since I have been County Lieutenant, hope shall not be subject to the penalty, though I must acknowledge have been very remiss in not informing you of it sooner. I made a return of the militia of this county to the Executive some time this winter, which suppose must have miscarried, or has not yet got to hand, which I hope will be a sufficient excuse, as it is out of my power to send a copy of the return, being at present at the Court House attending my duty as a magistrate. Northumberland Courthouse

I hope the above will be satisfactory, or at least that you will delay moving against me till next fall, when I shall be at Richmond on the Assembly, and make no doubt shall be able to exculpate myself entirely.

I am, Sir, Your Obed't Serv't.

L. WOOD, JR., SOL., TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. May 5th

Sir:

I am to request the favour of your Excellency's order to the Auditor for a Warrant of fifty pounds upon account, to defray Expenses in sending out Notices, Executions, &c., being Most Resp'y, &c.

GEO. CLENDENEN TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. May 6th

Sir:

I have long expected to hear from your Excellency whether there is any hopes of the Indians westward of the Ohio treating with the commissioners appointed for that purpose or not. However, we have very small expectations that they have, or, indeed, intend to adhear to any principle of that nature, as, according to custom, they have been imployed this spring on the frontiers in stealing horses and killing where they have had it in their power. Very early last month I received certain information that they killed four men in the county of Montgomery, stole twenty some odd horses from Limestone, and the other day as Capt. Miller, an Inhabi- Greenbrier

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1789. May 6th tant of this county, came in from Kaintucke, by the way of Kanawa, they, Indians, followed him and his party several days, and took from them two of their horses. I have been compelled to send off, for the defence of Kanawa, a part of the Rangers and the Scouts allowed for this county, as there was no possibilty of prevailing on the Inhabitants to stand their ground unless some support was given them; for, to my great mortification, I find that our frontiers rather suspects those that we ought to expect succour from to be our enemies than otherwise—I mean the people newly settled on the other side of the Ohio. This opinion, for my own part, I have not credited, and trust that I shall never have reason. Our County, at present, is intirely destitute of Lead, as I have no possible means, I know, of getting any from the Lead Mines, altho'. I am informed, there is a considerable quantity there which belongs to this County, yet I can procure no method of getting it Brought from thence. I have purchased a quantity of powder, and have inclosed you a certificate of the amount, which account I trust will be auditied, and also some knowledge given me how I shall get some of the public lead from the mines; for, indeed, I fear that the necessity is at present as urgent as it has hitherto been. But let the necessity be as it may, there appears to be good reason to suspect danger, and must therefore request your Directions how I shall govern myself.

I have the honor to be with great Respect and esteem, &c.

May 7th THE LIEUTENANT-GOVEROR LAID BEFORE THE BOARD

Two letters, bearing date the 25th ultimo. One from John Evans, Esq., Lieutenant of the County of Monongalia, and the other from Wm. McCleery, Esq., one of the Delegates in Assembly from that County, informing that the Indians had lately committed Hostilities by killing Capt. Wm. Thomas and others, and representing the exposed and defenceless situation of the Inhabitants.

Whereupon it is advised, that in order to give information to the United States in Congress assembled, Copies of the said letters with this advice, be immediately transmited to his Excellency, the President of the United States; and it is further advised that Col. Evans be directed to continue two of the Scouts, ordered by him into service, until further orders, and that he be empowered to order a Lieutenant and 25 Rangers into service, in order to repel any future attacks of the Enemy, taking particular care not to contiue them longer than real danger shall make it absolutely necessary.

May 7th AT THE DISTRICT COURT HELD FRIDAY, APRIL 3D, 1789,

At the Capitol, Absalom Allard for Horse-Stealing, and Agnes Smith for murder, were sentenced to be hanged on Friday, the 8th day of May. Reprieved the 7th day of May.

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JAS. JONES, ATT'Y-GEN'L TO JAS. WOOD, ESQ. 1789.

Sir:

I have not received any accounts from my deputies in the different districts. I have requested them generally, that in all cases proper for the merciful Interference of the Executive, if the judges should not take them up, to make special reports thereof to the Governor in Council. May 7th

I have the honor to be,
Respectfully, Sir,
Y'r most obd't Serv't.

COL. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. May 7th

Sir:

It is only since the first of this week that the town has become composed, and now there is a very great languor in the public boards, as the two houses of congress refuse, or rather avoid, everything that has the aspect of a recognition of the existence and authority of any of the Officers created under the former congress, and as yet the President of the United States has done no public act that continues them in office. There being but two members of the board of three, Mr. Baldwin having resigned, they have no power to act by the ordinance of Oct. 10th, 1788, till a third joins them. Finding them, however, complying in their sentiments, and disposed to concur with the wishes of the State, I availed myself of the circumstance, and have obtained their written assent to the reception of every account and voucher we have, provided they are soon bro't on. I have found so cool a disposition on the board of Treasury toward this business, and I think something like it in the Senator from Virginia, that I tho't it best at this time not to have the matter made the subject of discussion in congress. The representatives of our State have been very ready to afford any assistance. The Pension account will not be admitted without evidence superior to what is bro't on. The public boards are always, I believe, more or less influenced by the practice of the State where Congress may be, and therefore because New York pays her pensioners at the treasury, and the receipts produced as vouchers, the board seem to insist for Similar evidence from Virginia, particularly for that part of the account which commences with the first of 1785. The charges, prior to that period, are founded upon documents, very many of which were bro't on by Mr. Winder, and cannot now be resorted to, as they are in the possession of the board of treasury, but may, when the papers are taken up, be selected and applied in support of the pension account. After putting the whole of the business I am engaged in upon the best footing I can, I shall set out on my return, which I expect will be in a week or ten days. New York

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your Excellency's Obed't Serv't.

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1789. T. H. DREW TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

May 7th Richmond On Monday last I made my return as assistant Deputy Quarter Master for the District of Carter's ferry, agreeable to the inclosed letter from your Excellency. The Hon'ble Board of Council considered my services to be worth Ten Pounds. I flatter myself when that Hon'ble Board examines the within Statement they will not think the charge extravagant. I therefore, Sir, once more pray the attention of the Executive Power.

I have the Honor to be sir, [&c.]

May 2d LETTER OF THE GOVERNOR ENCLOSED IN THE FOREGOING.

IN COUNCIL, Jan'y 2d, 1789.

Sir:

The Executive are at present engaged in preparing the best Statement in their power of the several demands of this State against the United States. It is suggested that you will be able to furnish from your books very useful information on this subject. I have therefore to request that you will, by as early a day as possible, send to me an account of all the provisions, waggons, horses, clothing or other specifics which you received on account of the Continent from this State during your continuance in the Continental quarter master's department. I think it will be necessary to state specially the persons from whom you may have received the particular articles, and whether they were obtained by impressment or were delivered under the laws of the State. As this business will be attended with considerable trouble to you, I am authorized to assure you that full compensation will be made you for it. Permit me, Sir, to call your attention to this subject as a citizen. A very great amount of property has been furnished by the people of this country to the United States ——— have been unable as yet to obtain any credit. When you reflect that to whatever amount we may be able to establish our claims, so much of the burthen of your fellow-citizens will be lightened, I have no doubt but that you will readily give every aid in your power to the attainment of so desirable an end. You will be so obliging as to authenticate any accounts which you may be able to furnish me with by your own affidavit.

I am, Sir, Your Most obed't Servant,

BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

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PETER FIELD ARCHER 1789.

Is recommended as Cornet in the Militia Cavalry of Powhatan, in room of John Swan, j'r, who has removed from the County. May 8th Powhatan county

THO. HARRIS.

MAJ. I. NELSON TO THE HON'BLE GEN'L WOOD. May 8th

Sir:

Mr. Charles Hay has been good enough to examine the Papers in Mr. Beckley's Office, and can find neither the Petition presented by me to the last assembly, nor the affidavit of Mr. Archer, to which it refers. He has given me a certificate of this, which I have taken the liberty to inclose, and beg leave to submit my claim to the consideration of your Hon'ble Board, hopeing they will please to act upon the resolution of the Gen'l Assembly passed on the 17th day of Dec'r, 1788, and grant me such Relief as they may think proper.

I have the honor to be, Sir, &c.

PETITION OF WM. ENGLISH, May 8th

Condemned to one year's imprisonment, and the payment of a fine of twenty pounds, prays that the Executive will relieve him from the same.

J. AMBLER, TREASURER, TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL. May 8th

The whole sum of fifteen hundred pounds, first directed to be apportioned among the several counties on account of the claims of the Scouts and Rangers, has been paid. The last thousand pounds, directed to be opportioned in like manner, remains set apart for the purpose, except a few payments which have been made to the County Lieutenant. It is presumed the others have not yet been made acquainted with this further Dividend, or may not have had opportunities to send down for the money.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, FRIDAY, THE 8TH OF MAY, 1789. May 8th

On motion, Ordered That the Committee appointed on the 29th ultimo to report an estimate of the supplies requisite for the present year, and of the nett produce of the impost, as agreed to by the House, be authorized and instructed to collect early and authentic statements of the particular

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1789. May 8th articles of foreign produce and manufactures annually imported into, and of all the articles exported from the several States, and the value of such imports and exports. Also the number of vessels, both foreign and domestic, entered and cleared during that time, specifying their tonnage and the nations to which they respectively belong, specifying also the exact numbers of each particular description of vessels of each nation, and the amount of tonnage of each particular vessel.

Extract from the Journal. JOHN BECKLEY, *Clerk.*

May 9th E. GERRY, W. SMITH, AND J. PARKER, COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES, TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

NEW YORK, May 9th, 1789.

Sir:

The House of representatives of the United States being much in want of the documents mentioned in the order prefixed, in pursuance of their intentions, we request your Excellency to direct the proper statements to be obtained and transmitted to us, and if they cannot, in every respect, be conformed to the order, we request the best documents that can be procured, as they will be necessary in forming the important acts of Congress respecting revenue and commerce.

We have the honor to be, Sir, &c.

May 9th STEPHEN COCKE TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Fork Nottoway The year being nearly expired for which I was appointed Sheriff of Amelia, and as you have the power of continuing me in that office another year, with my approbation, I thought it not improper to inform you that I would thank you to send me by Mr. Ellis a commission for that purpose. A copy of the recommendation of the Court of Amelia you will find inclosed.

With much respect, I am, &c.

May 9th P. CLAYTOR, C. S.,

Certifies, I have examined the Auditor's Day-Book from the eighth day of December, 1780, to the thirty-first day of December, 1788, and cannot find that any warrants have issued in favour of Mess. Marsdon or Smith for a balance of an account of 18,403 lbs. of Tobacco, as p'r account taken from the Books of William Armistead, Esq., Com'l. Agent. Accompanying this certificate is the report of the Solicitor on the same subject, dated 19th of Dec'r, 1788.

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PETITION OF THOMAS MILLER, 1789.

With accompanying documents, sentenced to death for Horse-stealing at the sessions of the district Court, held in Winchester, prays the Governor and Council for pardon. May 9th

DISTRICT SOUTH PATOW'K, PORT OF ALEXANDRIA. May 9th

Returns of Total of Exports (Exclusive of Tobacco) from the 20th of Jan'y, 1789, to the 20th of April following, from the River Patowmack to the following places :

Barbados : Bread, 83 Barrels; Flour, 831 Do.; Shingles, 70,000.
Liverpool : Wheat, 8,000 Bushels.
Martinique: Corn, 3,000 Bushels; Beans, 250 Do.
Barcelona: Wheat, 9,139 Bushels.
Havre de Grace: Wheat, 5,314 Bushels; Flour, 400 Barrels.
Lisbon : Wheat, 3,700 Bushels.
Barbados: Bread, 20 Barrels; Flour. 501 Do.: Corn, 450 Bushels; Shingles, 33,000.
Bilboa: Flour, 32 Barrels; Wheat, 1,877 Bushels.
New York: Flour, 32 Barrels; Gensing, 63 Tierces and 6 Hhds.; Wheat, 300 Bushels.
Madeira : Flour, 930 Barrels; Corn, 3,000 bushels.
Lisbon : Tarr, 20 Barrels; Wheat, 4,963 Bushels.
Barbadoes : Bread, 190 Barrels; Flour, 710 Do.; Shingles, 50,000; Staves, 2,000.
Spain : Flour, 1,195 Barrels; Tarr, 18 Do.
N. England : Flour, 300 Barrels.
St. Eustatia : Flour, 300 Barrels; Shingles, 11,000.
St. Kitts: Bread, 172 Barrels: Flour, 1,460 Do.; Shingles, 1,000; Staves, 8,000.
New York: Flour, 300 Barrels; Wheat, 350 Bushels.
Philadelphia : Flaxseed, 15 Tierces; Wheat, 1,700 Bushels.
Lisbon: Wheat, 9,050 Bushels.
Philadelphia : Wheat, 1,200 Bushels.

E. E. CHARLES LEE,
Naval Officer of South Patowmack.

9th May, 1789.

DISTRICT, SOUTH PATOWMACK, PORT OF ALEXANDRIA. May 9th

Book of Bonds for Specie between the 20th of January, 1789, and the 20th April following :

Obligors: Triplett and Watson & Co.; Do. and Wilson; Scott and Scott; Do. and Laurason; Lander & Watson & co.; Story and Murray

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1789. May 9th & co.; Scott and Jenckes, Winsor & co.; Do. and Thompson; Keeney and Hunter; Scott and Very; Whitfield and Murray & co.; Scott and Laurason; Do. and Jenckes, Winsor & co.; Do. and Smith; Do. and Forrest & Stoddert; Bragg and Robinson, Sanderson & co.; Grubb & Hartshorne & Donaldson; Carheart and Vowells; Do. and Do.; Spaulding and Scott; Cline and Vowells; Graves and Murray & co.; Thompson and Vowells; Do. & Hartshorne & Donaldson; Do. and Watson & co.; Scott and Venters; Pitt & Watson; Wade and Thompson; Bartlett and Fitzgerald; Scott and Laurason; Davis & Hartshorne & Donaldson. Total, obligations £523. 12. 8.

E. E.

CHARLES LEE,
Naval Officer of South Patowmack.

May 9th DISTRICT OF SOUTH PATOWMACK, PORT OF ALEXANDRIA.

Book of Bonds for Certificates between the 20th of January, 1789, and 20th of April, following:

Obligors: Triplett and Wilson; Do. and Watson & co.; Scott & Shreve & Laurason; Scott and Scott; Lander and Watson; Andrews and Scott; Story and Murray & co.; Scott and Very; Scott and Smith; Cragg & Robinson, Sanderson & co.; Carheart and Vowels; Scott and Spaulding; Graves and Murray & co.; Thompson and Watson & co.; Do. & Hartshorne & Donaldson; Pitt and Watson & co.; Wade and Thompson; Bartlett and Fitzgerald; Scott and Shreve & Laurason; Davis & Hartshorne & Donaldson. Total, Principal £535. 12. 10.

E. E.

CHARLES LEE,
Naval Officer.

9th May.

May 10th *The State of Virginia to* JOHN CROW, DR.

To keeping nine Indian Prisoners from the 12th September, 1788, till the 14th January, 1789, at one shilling per day for each prisoner	£ 53. 12. 0.
To barracks from the tenth of April, 1788, till the 14th January, 1789, £4. 0. 0.	£ 57. 12. 0.

I can only give my opinion. Mr. Crow is intitled to part of his charge for sup'orting the Indien Prisioners, for reason, I have been informed by the best authority, the Indiens furnished part of there own provitions, and what he calls Barrocks I know to be old Cabbins, and I think he has received full satisfaction in his former charges against the public for his Cabbins.

BENJAMIN LOGAN.

May 10th, 1789.

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JACOB RUBSAMEN TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. 1789.

Apprehends that the Court of Chesterfield will grant an order upon the treasury for the building of an additional warehouse at Manchester Inspection, notwithstanding said house was not finished until four months after the time agreed upon, by which neglect he had lost in rent upwards of forty pounds. May 11th

The undertaker, Mr. Smith, has refused to leave the matter to arbitration, and will delay the recovery of suit on his bond as long as possible; begs the Governor to stop payment in the treasury.

SAM'L EDDINS TO COL. THOMAS MERIWETHER. May 11th

YORK, May 11th, 1789.

Sir:

I received your letter p'r favour of Mr. Archer, and embrace this early opportunity of answering it. I have partly agreed with a gentleman for the disabled ordnance, as I informed you when I was last in Richmond. I have been at a deale of trouble and some expen'e lately in getting them down the Hill conveniant to the water, as they might be imbarked immediately on applycation being made for them. They still ly on the beach at high-water marke. As soon as the Gentleman calls for them they shall be delivered, and the net proceeds immediately remit'ed to you. This you may rely on.

I am, Sir, with perfect respect, &c.

DAVID SHEPHERD TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. May 12th

Sir:

Agreeable to your Instruction I have order'd the men to be raised for the rangeing Company; likewise those Ordered for the use of General St. Clair. Twenty-five of the raingers and four spies are ordered on duty. It is the opinion of the officers of the county that the whole of the raingers should be order'd out, as the behaviour of the Indians Since the treaty is not favourable. About the 25th of April they kill'd five persons on Dunkard Creek, and Stole Six Horses and about Sixty pounds Worth of Goods. A few days after they kill'd Capt. King near the muskingum. Since that they stole five horses near the mouth of Wheeling by a young man from the mouth of the big Miami. I am informed that the Indians fired on a surveying party, kill'd two of the Chain-Carriers; the rest made their Escape. They have stole all the Horses, Except one, belonging to that place. Under these circumstances, Sir, I hope you will give sutch orders as you may think best for the safety of the County. I have found no person as yet willing to take the contract for furnishing provisions for the men ordered into service. Ohio county

Sir, I am with respect

Your ever sincere friend, &c.

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1789. JOS. NEVILL TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

May 13th Hardy county

Your Excellency's second letter, Respecting the State Road, I received yesterday, and is now before me. Your first I answered some time in Feb'y, and least that should have miscarried I now have to inform you the funds appropriated for that purpose was nothing but nominall. In the first place, Col. Deakin and myself, after viewing the different ways, agreed to draw £500 from Each State, which he thought might be sufficient for the first opening, and instead of the money I was furnished with that sum in warrants, and after opening the Road I made several applycations in Person, till I was convinced I should spend the greater part; since which I have sent them down by diferent Gent'n to no purpose. At last I was under the disagreeable necessaty of paying them into the Treasury for the Sheriff and waiting a year or two till the money could be collected, and that to Reserve in Eight and ten pounds at a time three warrants of £200 Each, I have reserved, as mentioned above. The fourth I paid into the Treasury last Aug't or Sept'r, and yesterday was the first time I received one farthing. To-morrow I am to set out a Jurney of fifty miles to reseive another part. The fifth I have either paid in for some person of whome I have no acc't or it is lost, and unless the Treasury books will shew I shall entirely loos, so that the trouble and Expenses I have been at in traveling three times to Richmond and in Collecting the money has been worth more than I have reserved. It is out of my power at this time to render an Acc't of the Opuning of the Road, as Col. Deakin has some Acc'ts I know nothing off, and as I have never been able to collect money to pay all the expenses I have not Settled with him, but shall do it as soon as I am able, as I am sure it conserns me more than any other person, and I don't want such Business hanging over my head unsettled. Sir, I have often known Irish Gent'm', whom fortune favoured in this country, talk of Lords and Earls till such time that they verily believed they sprang from Noble Blood themselves. I am afraid the Executive has been amused with the noise of the vote of the House of Assembly till such time as they believe I have received the £1,000 in cash. Sir, I offered those warrants in payment for the opening of the Road, but the people laughed at me and looked upon them as trash. Had I been furnished with the money I could have settled the Business Two years ago, but it is out of my power to do impossibilities. After hearing the above facts, and finding that my character and credit had suffered on account of the Publick, I hope you will do me so much Justice as when any of these people should make any more complaints to you, that you inform them I have opened them a very good Road through many Mountains, the distance of seventy miles, for which I received nothing, or next kin to nothing.

Sir, when I take the liberty to Inform you that I never was, in all my own dealings, duned for money, and that wherever I was known my word

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would be taken for five hundred pounds, you must needs think it must hurt such a one's feelings very much to ly under the sensure of the world for having received the Countri's money and not to acc't for the same, and my credit suffering at the same time. In answer to your Excellencie's first letter, that part of it desiring to know whether I think myself bound in conjunction with the Gent'm appointed by Maryland, to the making of Bridges and Causeways, I can answer that if I am furnish with the money, I think myself in duty bound so to do, but not otherwise; for I cannot think of binding myself for the public, and, at the same time, laying myself open to the sensure of the world, to the loss of time and trouble for nothing, which has been the case. 1789. May 13th

Should it be the desire of the Executive to have those Bridges and Causeways made, I will advertise them to the lowest undertaker, and, at the same time, inform them I will not be accountable to them for the pay, but they must look to the publick themselves. Tho' I am of the opinion the money might be beter applyed, as the Bridges will be very expensive and can never be made to stand in so rapid waters. The Road is very good and might be easily keep so, had the Court of Monnongalia, agreeable to my request, appointed overseers over that part belonging to Virginia, as the courts of Maryland did of their part, but that they scorned to do, as they had the Eastward of the Alleganea to do it for them.

I am y'r Excellency's most Obedient, h'bl. Serv't.

T. MERIWETHER, May 13th

Encloses bond executed in the sum of one hundred and thirty-three pounds, Virginia currency, by Edward Voss and Wm. Rose to the Governor, For two public Negroes.

THO. WHITE TO THE GOVERNOR, May 14th

Enclosing a letter from Jas. Jones, Attorney-General, stating reasons for the pardon of Sarah Smith and Absalom Allard, sentenced to be executed to-morrow, May 6th, the former for the supposed murder of her bastard child, the other for horse-stealing. With respect to Sarah Smith, I am most decidedly of opinion that she ought to have been acquited under the law, and this, I have been told, would have been the case had not the jury misconceived my interpretation of the Act of Assembly. There was much evidence ——— to prove that the child was born dead. As to Allard, he confessed his guilt. There was nothing atrocious attending his case. He appears to be a stupid, half-witted lad, about whom there is more stupidity than villainy. It is his first offence, and, if there is not too much presumption in the assertion, I will venture to declare that he is rather entitled to the clemency of government than numbers who have rec'd it for similar crimes. Mr. White, owner of the stolen horse, asks the pardon of the lad Allard, on the ground of humanity.

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1789. *Virginia—to-wit:*

May 14th At a District Court, held at the Courthouse, in the Town of Suffolk, the 14th day of May, 1789, Joseph Warden, late of the county of Norfolk, labourer, for Felony was sentenced to be hanged by the Sheriff of Nansemond County on Friday, the nineteenth day of June next, between the hours of ten in the forenoon and two in the afternoon of the same day.

Teste:

JOHN CARTER LITTLEPAGE, *C. D. C.*

Enclosed is a recommendation of the said Warden to the Governor and Council as a proper object of mercy, by Richard Cary and Jno. Tyler.

May 14th COL. JOHN BOTT TO THE GOVERNOR.

States that both the Lieutenant and Cornet of the light horse is removed out of the County. The company reinstated there Captain and Daniel Weisiger, Lieut., and Branch Tanner, Jr., Cornet. If agreeable to you be pleased to send their commission to Capt. Randolph. [Thinks] the company will soon be compleat, &c.

May 14th COL. ANTH. THORNTON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Caroline county. Not having received a single shilling for the Militia fines, thought it unnecessary to make any report about it until urged to do so by a notice yesterday from Mr. Sollicitor, that a motion would be made against me for neglect of duty. Hopes the Executive will direct the Sollicitor to waive the intended motion.

Nothing but the present deranged state of the Militia and my great wish to see them in better order, would keep me a single day in commission, &c.

May 15th COL. THOS. CLAIBORNE TO MR. LAYTON WOOD, SOL. G'L.

Mr. Solicitor:

Sir:

Yours of the 1st Ap'l last was this day handed to me by Mr. Timberlick. I oan the notice, and I could wish that I was the only officer of the melitia who have deserved to incur this penalty, but so general a lethargy has seiz'd the americans since the late peace, and the people are so generally unable to performe all the requisites of militia law,

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that it is no wonder the officers should be rought upon by humanity, but as a well-regulated melitia is truely the only safe defence of a free people, it is no matter how soon rigourous steps are taken, and if the rigour can be made general, and the embarrassed situation of our distress'd citerzens can possibly admit of it, with chearfull acquiescence I shall submitt to the payment of my fine. The cash is so hard to get, it may, probably, make me more cautious in future. I am, however, not without excuse for my conduct, as I made divers applications to the Captains for a compliance on their part, some of whome had not qualified to their commissions, and a general runner went through the country. That owing to some circumstance few or none of the officers had a right to command untill theire commissions were renewed. I shall, however, make my defense before the Court, but wheather I pay a fine or not, I am glad to see this step taken, as I hope it will serve as a stimulous to duty. 1789. May 15th

I am, with every sentiment of Esteam, Sir,
your friend and most ob'd't Ser't.

L. Wood, Jr., Sol., to Governor Beverley Randolph. May 16th

Richmond, Solicitor's Office.

Sir:

I am to request the favour of your Excellency's order to the Auditor for a Warrant for thirty pounds upon account to defray Office Expenses of a temporary Clerk, Fuel, &c.

Deposition of John Dickinson Haldam, of Petersburg. May 16th

Deposeth, that he lived with Hector McNeill, in the Town of Petersburg, in the year 1786, as a storekeeper; that a sudden and unforeseen fresh, as great, perhaps, as ever was known, took place in the River Appomattox in the night of the ninth of October, 1786, owing, as it was thought, to heavy rains that had fallen high above Petersburg, and could not have been owing to the rains in the neighborhood of Petersburg; that a large quantity of said Mr. McNeill's salt being then stored in two warehouses, near the landing, usually put to such use, it was found in the morning following that the fresh had got to all the salt in the body of both warehouses and had done great damage; that everything was done to preserve as much of it as possible, and upon the going off of the fresh, which was not till the 15th of the same month, it was found that the said McNeill must have sustained a loss of between 5 and 6 thousand bushels of salt, which calculation this deponent believes to be rather under than over the Loss actually sustained.

Sworn to before me this 16th May, 1789.

SAM DAVIES.

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1789. COL. JNO. ANDERSON TO COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL,

May 17th And enclosed in Col. Campbell's letter of the 27th of May to the Governor of Virginia.

BLOCK HOUSE, May ye 17th, 1789.

Dear Sir:

I wrote to you a few days since, wherein I informed you Respecting Mr. Wallen's being driven from home. I seen a certain Mr. Joseph Johnson a few hours since, who informed me that on the Evening of the 15th instant he had his family, which consisted of his wife and eleven children, all kill'd and taken except two. He found his wife and youngest child kill'd about three Quarters of a mile from his House. He lived on Clinch, where the Path cross'd the same between here and the Rye Cove. They Burnt his House, and he found the Bones of one of his children in the ashes. The others he allows they took Prisoner. I am fully persuaded from the many and Late Hostilities commit'd in that Quarter the inhabitants will move off if they Do not Get some assistance shortly. I am surpriz'd to think we guard'd our frontiers in the time of the Late war when we were attacked on both sides, and now can get no help. I am Doubtful Government has false Representations of our situation, or else none at all. You may Depend the People in this Quarter is much alarmed by the many and Late acts comit'd. Please to write to me the first opportunity.

I am, yours affectionately,

JNO. ANDERSON.

COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL.

May 19th JOHN BRYANT

Petitions the Governor and Council for the remission of a fine imposed on him by the County Court of Henrico in March, 1788.

May 19th COL. JOHN BOWYER TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Rockbridge county Inclosed you have a General Return of the Militia of the county of Rockbridge for the year 1789. The return for the year 1788, I understand by Mr. L. Wood, never came to hand. However, I made it out and sent it by somebody, but at this time do not remember. Sir, the pay that I receive for transacting the Business of County Lieutenant will not enable me to hier an Express to carry the Return down to Richmond, and I presume the Lawmakers never intended the County Lieutenants should ride to Richmond once in Every year to make the Return to your Excellency, and to get nothing for their trouble. If that was the intention

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of the law, it is indeed, in every sense of the word, making them work for nothing and find themselves. Sir, ever since I have acted as County Lieutenant I have done my duty to the best of my judgment. Mr. L. Wood has sent me a notice with regard to the Court Martial fines that I have not accounted for as the Law directs. Sir, I have never rec'd one farthing for fines since the Law pass'd authorising the County Lieutenants to receive them. So soon as any money comes into my hands for fines, I shall punctually acc't for the money as the Law directs. 1789. May 19th

I am, with the Greatest Sincerity,

Your Excellency's most h'ble Serv't.

L. WOOD, JR., SOLICITOR, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. May 19th

Sir:

Inclosed you will please receive Messrs. Hunter Banks & Company's Acc't against the Commonwealth, with my Report.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA, FAVOURED BY NONTOACHA AND KEESOOCANNOH, INDIAN CHIEFS. May 19th

A Talk Held by the Head Warriors and Chiefs of the Cherokee Nation at the beloved town of Great Chota, the 19th day of May, 1789.

Elder Brother and Governor of Virginia:

The Great Spirit above have inclined our Hearts to think of peace and live in quietness with our white Brother. It is true some of our young men, who was rash and inconsiderate, begun some mischief, which we are sorry for, tho' it is all peace now, and we hope will ever be so. We have sent some of our headmen to go to the Great Council of the United States to see our Great brother, General Washington, and have told them to call on you as they go along and let the Virginians, our brothers, know that we have thought good of them and wish to hold them fast by the hand. We hope you will see us righted and Justice done us, as we have always found you honest, and still hope you will not let any people take our lands from us without our consent. We give to our white brothers all the land we Had to Spare at the last Treaty held in South Carolina, and now we have but little left to raise our young Seed upon. We hope our beloved white brothers will Pitty people in Distress, and remember that the Great Spirit above have made us to live on the Earth as well as themselves. We are neither Birds that live in the Air nor fish that can live under the Water. We shall depend on Congress and all that is joined with them, and shall not listen to any other people. We hope that Congress will not forget the treaty made with us, for we shall not forget what we have promised.

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1789. WARRIORS AND CHIEFS OF THE CHEROKEE NATION, TO HIS EXCELLENCY, PATRICK HENRY, ESQ.

May 19th Loving Brother and Old Friend:

We once more petition you for assistance. We are so Distrest By the No. Carolina People that it seems Like we sho'ld soon become no People. They have got all our Land from us. We have hardly as much as we can stand on, and they seem to want that little worse than all the Rest. While we ware under the Virginia People we liv'd hap'y. If you Do not help us we must apply to the Creeks and Span'ards, and that is what we don't want to do. Our Brother and freand, whome we send to Congress as our Representative, Can inform you the need we have of assistance, and in what manner we are your friends and Brothers. The Warriors and Chiefs of the Cherokee Nation, to all the Beloved men at Richmond.

May 20th CERTIFICATE OF DR. WALTER JONES,

That Mr. Catesby Jones was taken ill about the 15th September, 1788, and continued so feeble till sometime in October as to be incapable of performing a Journey, &c.

May 20th HARRY HETH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Richmond Incloses an account-sales of the Public Tobacco from the 10th of March to the 20th of May inclusive. Was in hopes to have completed the list of balances from the Westham Foundry Books by this time, but finding that business more troublesome than he at first supposed, it will take him the ensuing week to finish it, being obliged, in order to ascertain the ballances agreeable to the scale of Depreciation, to transcribe every account on the Books.

May 20th CERTIFICATE OF WM. SPRATLEY, JAMES KEE, THOMAS PETER, AND WM. BAILEY, CAPTAINS.

That on the day appointed for the General Muster in October, 1788, the County-Lieutenant and Major were sick; the Colo. was at Richmond on the Assembly; the Lieut.-Colo. out of the State, so that there could not be a Court-Martial for want of a Field Officer; and that there has not been any Fines levied by the Court-Martial since the Peace.

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COL. BENJAMIN WILSON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. 1789.

Sir:

On the 7th of this instant, 1789, I rec'd your Letter and Order of Council Dated December 31st, 1788. The County-Lieut. being absent, and if in the County, now living with his family on a Island of the Ohio River, Op'osite to the Mouth of the Muskingum River. The Indians having kill'd some people this Spring in our adjoining County. The frequent Reports that ye Shawnew, with some other tribes of Indians, was Disposed for war, the Repeated ap'lication of the people of my County for Protection, and the alarm of Indians being seen in this County, Induced me to call together the Field Officers and Capt's of the Militia on the subject of your Letter and Order of Councill. Through me the Board of Officers return their thanks for your Particular and Early care of the Frontiers, but Viewing you were not fully acqua'nted With the Extent of the Exposed part of this County, and what might be most for the peoples' Safety, and attended with the Least Expence to Government, were unanimously of the following opinion, to-wit: "That six Scouts was the Least number that could cover the Exposed Inhabitants, and that this number could afford a sufficient security for the present, and that the Rangers should not be call'd into actual service so as to incur an expence to Government, whilst the six Scouts was in service, or until the Executive ordered it otherwise." The Capt's of the dif'erent Militia Companys gave assurance to the Councill of Officers that they would have an active part of the Best men of their respective commands in continual re'diness to do volenteer service on any part of the frontier if need required, and should Conveen together on any Emergency. May 22d Harrison county.

Since the first meeting of the Officers, this Inclosed Deposition came to hand with the Renewed application of the Dispersed people, which Induced me to Call the Officers Together the Second time, and being impressed with the Danger of too much delay, I have ordered six Scouts into Im'ediate service, and submitt their continuance to your Pleasure.

Sir, I consider it my duty, as well as under the obligation of the Militia Law, to transmit this Letter to you by way of Express.

Sir, I am your most obed't and very Humble Serv't.

THE INCLOSED DEPOSITION OF MR. JAMES HAMILTON,

Above referred to, states the Deponent is informed that there had five Nations of Indians Declared themselves for war this Season; that the Indians had made an attempt on the people at the Miami and had kill two men and took Judge Simms' horses from that place, and when Mr. Hamilton came to Muskingum there the Indians had killed one of the officers of that place, a certain Capt. King, at or oposite the mouth of the Ka-

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1789. May 22d naway, ten or twelve Days before, and that he saw Capt. Carpenter opesite the mouth of the Muskingum River, who informed [him] that there was 250 Indians had turned out for war from the Sandusky Towns and was gone to Waylay the Ohio—To take boats, &c.—and that it was Capt. Carpenter's opinion the Indians would be troublesome this summer.

May 22d

AT A COURT OF OYER AND TERMINER

Held at the Courthouse of Powhatan County on Saturday, the 16th day of May, 1789, Jim, a slave, was sentenced to be hanged on the first day of June next for the crimes of Burglary and Rape. Three of the justices constituting the court were of the opinion that the said Jim was not guilty of these offences, and at a Court of Oyer and Terminer held at the Courthouse of Powhatan County on Friday, the 22d day of May, 1789:

Ordered, That the Clerk do transmit to the Executive a copy of the procceedings on the trial of Jim, a negro man slave, the property of Charles Hatcher. The court being then uninformed of an act of Assembly, passed in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, Entitled "An act directing the method of trying slaves charged with Treason or Felony." And having passed a sentence of death on the said slave contrary to the said Act, when there were three of the judges then sitting, viz: William Ronald, John Macon, and Littleberry Mosby, Jun'r, Gent., who were of opinion that the said slave was not guilty of Burglary, being one of the offences wherewith he stood charged, and was only guilty of making an attempt to committ the rape, being the other of the charges exhibited against him—which said sentence the court now find to be altogether erroneous.

ABNER CRUMP, *Cl'k.*
W. WOODSON, *D. C.*

May 22d

COLO. WM. DAVIES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

New York

Finding it impracticable to obtain the attention of congress to any local or partial regulation, and apprehending there would, in all probability, be some considerable opposition to any measure that might have the aspect of indulgence to one State more than another, I relinquished every design I had formed of applying to Congress on the subject of the business I came on, and determined at once to appear before the Board of treasury with the documents I possessed, to urge for their taking up the subject in my presence, and to press for their sanction to the most enlarged admission of all the papers and claims of Virginia. I found for some time a reluctance in the board to engage in the business, alledging a doubt about their authority, and wishing me to be referred to the board of three, or perhaps to the President himself. After some argument on

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the occasion, and urging for their opinion at least on the subject, they took up and discussed the whole of the papers with me. They then desired me to state my request in a letter to them, together with copies of all the papers, and promised to consider the matter fully, and give me their determination in writing agreeably to my request. I complied with their desire, and in about a week obtained the most ample decision in favour of the admission of all the papers of Virginia that she may speedily send on. I was the more anxious to have the business placed upon this footing by so respectable a board, as I found a great probability of an entire change in the department and abolition of the board altogether. Having thus obtained from the board of Treasury, and from the two existing commissioners of the board of three, their consent for the unlimited admission of all accounts and vouchers of Virginia, provided they are speedily bro't on, I conceive it improper at this time, and I am in hopes it will be wholly unnecessary to apply for any longer extension of the period for the admission of claims. After many attempts on the pension business, I find the evidence of actual payment so generally deficient, and the accounts themselves, prior to 1785, so confused and often inexplicable, that I could scarce attempt more than to establish the title of the pensioners to have public support; and as every disputed point in the inferior boards goes up by way of report to the Treasury board, I find the business would detain me a great deal too long, especially as no injury can arise from postponing it till I return hither again, and until the departments are arranged and the Officers appointed. Under these circumstances I shall set out on Monday or Tuesday next, and hope my conduct will meet your Excellency's approbation. I am sorry to inform you that Colonel Bland had yesterday, while at Congress, a severe fit, which there is some reason to fear is rather epileptic than apoplectic. He is tolerably well to-day again, except a little weak. I would beg your permission for the doorkeeper to lodge the letter enclosed herewith at the post-Office.

1789. May 22d

I have the honor to be, Sir, with respectful esteem,

Your Excellency's Most obedient and humble Servant.

L. Wood, Jr., Solicitor, to the Governor. May 22d

Incloses a further report of Sundry delinquent Sheriffs.

Judgment in 1784 for £563. 11. 11.; 1785, *Fieri Facias* Executed on 16 Horses and 16 Cows, not sold for want of Bidders, but received £36. 1.; 1786, a *Vend. Exp.* issued and returned not sold for want of Buyers; 1787, another *Vend. Exp.* issued and returned not sold for want of Bidders. Commonwealth *vs.* Gross Scruggs, Sheriff of Bedford Court, 1783.

Judgment in 1786 for £1,119. 9., and in 1789 a *Fieri Facias*, executed on 10 Negroes, 20 Head of Horses, 40 Head of Nett Cattle, 1 Waggon, 5 feather Beds and Furniture, and 5 Leather-Bottomed Chairs. The same taken on another Execution and the above articles not sold for want of Buyers. Same vs. Wm. McClenachan, Sheriff of Botetourt Court, 1783.

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1789. May 22d Same vs. Sir John Peyton, Sheriff of Gloucester Court, 1783.

Judgment in 1875 for £1,985. 15. 4, and in 1786 a *Fieri Facias* issued, which does not appear to have been returned, as in 1787 another *Fieri Facias* issued, which was suspended by various orders of Council to the 1st February last, and does not appear to be as yet returned.

Same *vs.* Wm. Griffin, Sheriff of King and Queen Court 1783.

Judgment for £759.7.1½ in 1785 and in 1786 a *Fieri Facias* was executed on 19 negroes and 60 Head of Cattle. This property was not sold, but redelivered to the within-named Griffin on his producing an Order of Council for suspending the said Execution.

The Solicitor's Report contains thirty-one other cases against Sheriffs, in which the property taken in execution was either not sold for want of Buyers, or the Executions suspended by the order of the Executive or the General Assembly, or otherwise not returned.

May 22d

PETITION OF STEPHEN AND MOSES AUSTIN TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Flatter themselves that not only the interest of this State, but the United States in General, and more particularly this City, is interested in the success of [their] undertaking; that [they] have lately contracted for the Lead Mines in Montgomery county for the purpose and intention of carrying on those works in as extensive a manner as possible, to effect which, from the decay'd state of the buildings, furnace, mills, &c., [they] find [themselves] under the necessity of building new ones in their place, the compleating of which will be attended with considerable expence. [They] are induced, from the prospect of the large production of Lead which these mines will afford, to Establish a Shott Manufactory in this place, Buildings, &c., for which [they] have already contracted for. They hope so to extend the business as to prevent the importation of a considerable part, if not all, those usefull articles of Shott and Lead from Europe to this Country, and thereby retain the Large Sums of Money which is yearly drawn from those States for those Articles. And as [they] find there is about Thirty Tons of Lead, the property of this State, which has for seven years past, and still continues, to Lay at these works, by which it appears the State have no immediate use for it, they request the Loan of it, Giving satisfactory security to return the same quantity of Lead at any time when called for, &c.

May 22d

AT A COURT OF QUARTERLY SESSION,

Continued and held for Norfolk County, the 22d day of May, 1789,

Present: Thomas Nash, Willis Wilson, Samuel Beale, John Keaner, Gent., Justices.

Ordered, That the order made the seventeenth of last month, in consequence of the letter received from the Clerk of the Council, respecting

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the justices in the commission of the peace, be rescinded, and that a copy hereof be immediate transmitted to his Excellency, the Governor, and the honourable the Council. 1789. May 22d

A Copy—Teste:

JNO. BOUSH, *C. N. C.*

JAS. JONES, ATTORNEY-GENERAL, TO THE GOVERNOR. May 23d

Sir:

I made use of Ephraim Willard, a felon, at present in the public Jail, as an evidence for the State against John Whitney. They were committed as being associates in counterfeiting and passing the public securities of the United States. Whitney was acquited by the Grand Jury. I should not have extended to Willard the indulgence mentioned above had not one Payne, of Fredericksburg, the only material witness against him, absconded previous to his trial. I have detained this man for some time in confinement, expecting to be able to extort from him some material discoveries. In this expectation, however, I have been disappointed. He now claims his liberation by pardon, to which, I acknowledge, he is entitled, under a promise I made to his counsel, Col. Monroe.

I have the honor to be y'r most ob't Serv't,

TWO PETITIONS, May 23d

Numerously signed, for the pardon of Francis Suttle, late of Campbell county, who, at a District Court held at New London in April, 1789, was condemned to be hanged on Tuesday, the 22d May, 1789, for horse stealing. The Governor being absent when the petitions in favor of Francis Suttle were read, he requests that the gentlemen of the council will be good enough to say * * * whether they will grant a pardon or not. Jas. McClurg, Jas. Jones, C. Braxton, Will Heth, James Wood, members of Council, advise a pardon.

THO. MILLER TO GOVEROR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. May 23d

Sir:

Having been informed that Messrs. John Curd and John Shelton have transmitted to your Excellency a certificate from the Deputy Cl'k of Goochland, setting forth that I had availed myself of the benefit of the Gaming act, Presumes that it was done to oppose the recommendation of the Court that he, Miller, should be added to the Acting justices of the Goochland county.

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1789. May 23d

Peace for Goochland County, and that it was done to gratify their own private spleen, and to invalidate his defence against a charge exhibited against him by Mr. Thomas Underwood, &c., &c. With regard to his plea of the Gaming act, Mr. Miller states that, having abandoned the practice of Gaming, he had disposed of a great proportion of his small Estate in discharge of Gaming Contracts and finding no probability of collecting any debts due him upon the same principle, nor even from those to whom he had made considerable payments, he was induced to adopt this as the only alternative to enable him to do justice to his real creditors and innocent securities, &c., &c.

May 23d

PETITION OF DAVID FERGUSSON, OF THE TOWN OF BLANDFORD, TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

States that he is a native of Great Britain; that he opened a retail store in 1787, and associated with him in said store, one John Tennent, who obtained a license from the Court of Prince George County to keep a retail store, and paid the tax of Five pounds required of citizens. Your Petitioner conceived that a licence granted to Tennent, who was a partner and a Naturalized Citizen, was a qualification for himself to carry on the business without being compelled to pay the Tax of Twenty pounds on aliens. As the store was simply called David Fergusson's, and the licence was not in his own name, the Court fined him in the sum of forty pounds, the penalty provided in such cases. As the Tax or Licence of Five pounds had been paid, he prays the Executive to remit the fine.

May 23d

THE COMMONWEALTH OF VA. TO JOHN SPOTS'D MOORE, DR.

Searcher Moore's account.

To my expenses to and from Williamsburg on the trial of Capt. Jacob Glenn's vessel, three days, May 10th, 1788.....£1, 10. 0.
To expenses attending Capt. Anthony Furness' trial..... ——
To an Express going to and from Williamsburg, Jan'y 16, 1789 .....£1. 0. 0.
To my attendance and traveling expenses to and from W'msburg, five days.....£2. 10. 0.
To Hire of four Negroes, two days, unloading the said vessel, at 2. 6.....£1. 0. 0.

£6. 0. 0.

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WILLIAM GREEN, BENJAMIN SMOOT, JAMES BISSET, ROBERT MIMS, 1789.

Joshua Morris, Crouch & Rock, Nicholas Conway, Richard Sharpe, Jun'r, James Roach, John Bryan, Elizabeth Alley, and William Lipscomb, convicted at the May Court, 1788, for Henrico County, of retailing Spirituous Liquors contrary to Law, and fined Sixty pounds each: Whereupon, for reasons appearing to the Court, It is ordered that the said defendants be recommended to his Excellency, the Governor and the Council, for the sum of fifty pounds from each of their fines aforesaid, to be remitted to them. His Excellency is respectfully informed that there has never been an instance in which Indents have been admitted in payment for the Interest accruing on judgments, nor have they for the Taxes, without a return from the County Court. I do not recollect of any application of this nature, except in the case of Colo. Blunt, of Southampton. May 23d

P. SOUTHALL.

Auditor's Office, 23d May, 1789.

RO. SAUNDERS TO THE GOVERNOR. May 24th

Encloses to the Governor a bond executed before the Court of James City for the faithful performance of the Office of Notary Public. Williamsburg.

DANIEL HERRING, LATE SHERIFF OF ISLE OF WIGHT, TO THE GOVERNOR. May 24th

Complains that the County Court at its May Session, 1789, had ordered the Clerk to certify to the Executive that Mr. Herring, the late Sheriff, has actually begun the collection of the said tax for the year 1788, but that he has failed to give Bond, as the law directs, for the said Collection, &c. States that a certain Richard Clements, as [he,] Herring, is informed, has made bold, very lately, to collect a Few pounds of the Revenue Tax of 1788, but denies that it was with [his] consent or knowledge, and that it was contrary to [his] orders. States that Mr. Andrews, who waits on his Excellency, is ready to declare that from [his] orders He forbid the s'd Rich'd Clements from receiving any Lists of Taxes due for the year of 1788, or any Tickets or Fines whatever to collect for that year. He declares the charge contained in the order unfounded, and that he should have had an opportunity to meet it before the order was certified to the Executive. Isle of Wight

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1789. DAVID MASON, COUNTY LIEUTENANT OF SUSSEX COUNTY, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

May 25th Informs his Excellency that, as County Lieutenant, he had been served with two notices from the Solicitor-General, that at the next General Court judgment will be moved for against [him] for not making a return of the Militia of the County of Sussex, and also for not rendering an account for fines or other moneys which may have come into [his] hands by virtue of [his] said office. States that when he took command of the Militia of his county it was in a state of complete disorganization—not an officer higher than a subaltern. Has made great efforts, and encountered great difficulty in organizing the Militia of his county. Expects the Officers now to do their duty. Has had a General Muster, and Court of enquiry, and assessment of Fines, and expects to be able to render to [his] Excellency a satisfactory return. Has the pleasure to inform [him] that our Cavalry is nearly, if not altogether, compleat. Answered the circular letter to the County Lieutenant, respecting publick affairs. Hopes to be able to transmit to Col. Davis a state of such matters as may enable him to perform the work he is called to. Hopes that, for the many reasons assigned for [his] delinquency, the Executive will be pleased to direct the Solicitor-General not to move against [him] for the Fines above mentioned.

May 25th JAS. JONES, ATTORNEY-GENERAL, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH,

Enclosing a letter from John Baylor to the Governor, interceding for George Byrde, a young man, who was sentenced to death at Charlottesville for Horse-stealing. States that it was in evidence that Byrd disposed of the Horse, stolen by Jerril, to a man in Fredericksburg, and alledged, in his justification, that he had him of Jerril in a swap. The original depositions taken at the Examination of Byrd and Jerril in Caroline County, now to be found in the General Court office, &c.

May 25th HENRICO COUNTY, MAY COURT, 1789.

On the motion of George Bridges, and for reasons appearing to the Court, It is ordered that he be recommended to his Excellency, the Governor, and the Council, for a fine imposed on him at November Court last, for his non-attendance as a Juryman, to be remitted unto him.

A Copy—Teste:

ADAM CRAIG, *C. C.*

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1789.
May 26th

GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH TO THE NAVAL OFFICER AT NORFOLK.

Governor's order as to glass for the public buildings imported from Philadelphia No duty to be demanded

Sir:

It having been certified to me that a Box of Glass, imported from Philadelphia by Mr. John Groves, is for the use of the Commonwealth, you will deliver it to the order of the Directors of the public buildings without demanding the Duties thereon, for which this shall be your warrant. I am y'r h'ble Serv't.

THE GOVERNOR ENCLOSES THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO WM. HAY. May 25th

NORFOLK, May 15th, 1789.

Sir:

I applied at the Custom House for the Box Glass, but was refused it until the duties was secured for which it was deposited. In vain did I urge that it was for the publick buildings, and that you were a manager, and that the Treasurer would pay anything chargeable thereon when demanded. The naval officer says if it is for the publick buildings, an order from the Executive, or either of the Council, will justify him in the delivery. If you'l procure this and forward it to me, I'll do the needful. I can't hear of any demand either for Porter or brown Beer.

I am, sir, your mo. ob't Serv't.

ED. ARCHER.

Endorsed on this letter is the following Certificate:

RICHMOND, May 26th, 1789.

I hereby certify that the Box of Glass detained by the naval officer of Norfolk, was imported from Philadelphia by Mr. John Groves, p'r account of the Directors of the public Buildings, and that the same is for the Public Buildings in this City.

WM. HAY,
for the Directors.

JOHN HOPKINS TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. May 27th

Goochland county

States that a certificate from the Deputy Clerk of this County, representing that Mr. Thos. Miller, who has been recommended as a justice of the peace, had availed himself of the Gaming Act. That this representation may be prejudicial to Mr. Miller, he, therefore, esteems it his duty to state that he had never heard anything prejudicial to Mr. Miller's character; that he had known him a long time, and that those acquainted with the circumstances attending his taking the benefit of the Gaming Act, commend him for it.

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1789. LEVI TODD TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

May it Please your Excellency:

May 27th Fayette Enclosed is a recommendation for an additional number of Magistrates in Fayette, as a considerable part of the former acting ones fall into Woodford. Previous to the first of May I had four Scouts on Duty pursuant to Orders from the Executive. I never thought it necessary to send the Rangers, or any of them. On the first of May the County of Woodford took place, so that Fayette has a very small Frontier. I suppose I shall never think it necessary to keep on Duty more than two Scouts, and unless Times grow worse, which I have no reason to expect, no Rangers, I suppose, will be ordered on duty. I would observe that Woodford is much exposed, and had the Commanding Officer of that County similar instructions to those sent me, dated Dec'r 31, 1788, it will enable him to give great protection should the Indians be troublesome before the militia in that County be regulated, or even after. Without powers from the * * * much mischief will be done. A party of the Federal Troops who are stationed on the Miami were marching on the S. E. side of the Ohio a few days ago, near the mouth of Licking, were fired on by the Indians. One Soldier was Killed and Six wounded. The Kentucky people are more divided than ever with regard to a separation under the late act of Assembly. Some of the warmest advocates for it will object to the terms as unreasonable, ungenerous and dishonorable. I therefore expect they will be rejected, Tho' a great majority of the District wish for a separation on amicable principles and an admission into the Federal Government. The Mississippi Trade is a great object to Kentucky. At present none enjoy much advantage except a few who have permits from the Governor of New Orleans. Excuse me when I observe that the fertile Genius of the Kentuckians must, I think, before long, break through such partial Restraints, where their trade is directed by the Caprice or Bribery of a Spanish Officer. Your Excellency will pardon my digression from Business to Politicks, while I have the honour to be, with the greatest Esteem,

Your Excellencie's Most Obed't and Very Humble Servant.

May 27th LEVI TODD, CLERK OF FAYETTE COUNTY,

Certifies that, at a court continued and held for the County of Fayette, May 16th, 1789, Thomas Marshall, Jr., Esquire, Surveyor of this County, came into Court and informed the Court that at July Court next, he will resign finally his Surveyor's Commission. The Court, foreseeing the disadvantages that may arise from the vacancy, do recommend Robert Todd, Esquire, as a proper person to fill that office.

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BENJ. HARRISON, COUNTY LIEUTENANT OF ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH, 1789.

Incloses a report of the Strength of the Militia of Rockingham, and a return of the reseption and expenditure of the Militia fine. But there is a considerable sum put into the hands of his Debuties to collect. But he never received one farthin' in his own hands as County Lieutenant. But as Sheriff he accounts for what his Debuties Has rec'd; Likewise What has been paid out by order of Court Marshall. He was sighted by the Solicitor General for not making a return of monies rece'v'd and Disburs Agreeable to the Militia Laws. Has performed every part of his duty except this which he has been sighted for. Was about to make his returns when sighted, and hopes he will be excused for his delinquency. May 27th

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JOHN WOODSON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. May 27th

Being informed that the character of Mr. Thos. Miller had been assailed on account of his pleading the Gaming Act, he excuses the conduct of Mr. Miller and vouches his respectability and good standing in the county. Goochland

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COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. May 27th

Sir:

I have been applyed to by the people settled on Clinch river and in Powell's Valley to mention their distressed situation on account of attacks from the Indians. The inclosed letter from Colo. Anderson, and the information you can receive from Capt. Craig, the bearer herewith, who is an officer of our Militia, will give you satisfactory information. It is inexplicable to some why the Indian attacks our frontier with such fury, destroying all where they come, When at the same time we are told the Governor of the Western Territory made peace with the Northern Indians last winter, and that a Treaty is now on foot to the Southward. Will not Congress adopt some effectual measure before long respecting Indian affairs? Or are the people to depend on the State Governments? Washington

Your Excellency's instructions, at this time, in either case, may do great Service and save lives.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, &c.

Col. Campbell incloses to the Governor the following letter received from Col. Jno. Anderson:

BLOCK HOUSE, May ye 17th, 1789.

Dear Sir:

I wrote to you, a few days since, wherein I inform'd you Respecting Mr. Wallen's being from home. I seen a certain Mr. Joseph

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1789. May 27th

Johnson a few hours since, who informed me that on the Evening of the 15th instant he had his family, which consisted of his wife and Eleven children, all killed and taken Except two. He found his wife and youngest child killed about three-quarters of a mile from his house. He lived on Clinch, where the Path crossed the same between here and the Rye Cove. They burnt his house and he found the Bones of one of his children in the ashes. The other he allows they took prisoner. I am fully persuaded from the many and Late Hostilities commit'd in that quarter the inhabitants will move off if they Do not get some assistance shortly. I am surprised to think we guarded our frontiers in the time of the late war, when we were attacked on both sides, and now can get no help. I am Doubtful Government has false Representations of our Situation, or else none at all. You may depend the People in this quarter is much alarmed by the many and late acts comt'd. Please to write to me the first opportunity.

I am, yours affectionately,

JNO. ANDERSON.

COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL.

May 27th

STEPHEN SAMPSON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Goochland county Little Bird

Being informed that the recommendation of Goochland court, in favour of Mr. Thos. Miller, has been Contested by several Gentlemen of the County, on the plea that he had availed himself of the benefit of the Gaming Act, States that Mr. Miller had paid away a considerable part of his Estate to satisfy Gaming debts before he took the benefit of the Act; that his course is approved by the disinterested; that he, Sampson, and he believes several others of the absent members, from the general character and conduct of Mr. Miller, would have been in his favour had they been present; that he has reason to believe the opposition made by these Gentl'n to Mr. Miller proceeds from party prejudice.

May 29th

WM. BOWYER TO LEATIN WOOD, ESQ., SOLICITOR.

Received two notices from [him] for Delinquency of office as County Lieutenant of Augusta. In neither case is he culpable. No fines have ever yet come to [his] hand, nor has he been able to make a return, as the law directs, of the strength of [his] Militia, owing to Officers appointed not qualifying, &c. Expects Mr. Wood will give his reasons to the General Court, which [he] hopes will prove a sufficient excuse.

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WM. BOWDEN FOR LOUIS DE SIGOUGNE TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. 1789.

Represents that an execution against Louis De Sigougne, a native of the Kingdom of France, for duties judg'd, came to hand only two days before M. De Sigougne took passage for Europe; that not suspecting so speedy a demand for these duties, and that as Negroes, sold under Execution for cash, in the County of Middlesex, where his estate lies, would fetch mere nothing, requests that there be suspension of return of said Execution until the money may be raised in a more advantageous and Easier way. Doing which, would continue repose to a disconsolate Lady and Otherwise distressed family, &c. May 30th

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PETITION OF MATTHEW GODFREY, WILLIS WILSON, JOHN REAMES, SAM'L BEALE, AND ED. ARCHER, May 30th

Gent., Justices for Norfolk county, for the pardon of Frank, a negro sentenced to death at a Court held for Norfolk County, the 8th day of May, 1789, for felony.

ROBERT TODD TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. May 30th

Sir:

The bearer, Mr. Rose, undertakes to do me the favor of waiting on your Excellency, with the necessary papers, to obtain a commission of Surveyor of Fayette, which I hope you will, as soon as convenient, please to grant.

I am, Sir, Your Excellency's
Most Ob't and Hum'le Serv't.

COMMONWEALTH *vs.* HENRY GAY, May 30th

For refusing to return a list of his Taxable property. May, Rockbridge Court, 1789, John Bowyer, Charles Campbell, James Buchanan, and Jos. Walker, Gentlemen, Justices.

It is ordered that the Def't be fined the sum of five pounds and Treble Taxed according to Law, &c., &c.

A Copy—Teste:

A. REID, *C. C.*

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1789. A GENERAL RETURN OF THE REGIMENT OF MILITIA,

June 1st In the County of Louisa, under the command of Garritt Minor, County Lieutenant, Colonel, 1; Lieut.-Colonel, 1; Major, 1;. Captains, 12; Lieutenants, 12; Ensigns, 12; Sergents, 36; Musick, 1; Rank & file, 631; Swords, 9; Epontoons, 1. Muskets, 5; Guns, 81: Bayonets, 1.

GARRITT MINOR,
County Lieutenant.

June 1st JOHN CAMPBELL, KEEPER OF THE DISTRICT JAIL,

Composed of the Counties of Fairfax, Loudon, Fauquier and Prince Wm., informs the Governor that Jett Roach and George Quick, who had been convicted and confined in Jail at Dumfries, had made their escape. Mr. Dixon requested to publish Governor's Proclamation.

June 2d ROBT. JOHNSON, C. OF W. C., TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

D'r Sir:

I Rec'd yours of Dec'r 2d, 1788, by the hand of Gen'l Scott, with twelve blank Commissions for the County of Woodford, which was filled up in the names of the first six Captains. In the recommendation of the Court and the first six Lieutenants, all which takes Rank as they stand in order, to take rank as such from the second Day of June, 1789. I have Inclosed you a Copy of the recommendation of the Court, wherein you will find the names of the officers commissioned, which will enable you to fill up Com'ns For the rest, as I had some reason to expect Gen'l Scott would qualify to his Com'n yesterday, therefore I omited wrighting to you concerning the circumstance of the County for sometime past. The Indians hath taken a number of horses from the people of Woodford County, at three different times Last winter, the last of which we persued about forty miles from the settlement and Retook twenty-eight Head of horses and killed one of them on the Ground—which was about the middle of Feb'ry Last. I have Good information that about the 20th of May last a party of men from Judge Symse's Garrison near the mouth of Big Miami, was on the Ohio Between s'd place and the Mouth of Leekin, p't of which was continental troops, were fired on by about thirty Indians on our shore, one of the men was killed and six wounded—three of which is supposed to be mortall. We have a settlement of a few men at the mouth of Kentucky River, who hath received some damage from the Indians, the perticulars of which I cannot at this time ascertain. I have understood the County Lieutenant of Fayette received authority from the Executive to order four scouts and thirty Rangers for the Defence

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of the frounteers of s'd County if necessary, and as the Division hath taken place the first of May last, almost all the frounteers, which is in a dangerous situation, falls in Woodford County, so that the commanding officer of Fayette cannot be expected to Exercise s'd authority to the protection of Woodford County. I therefore hope you will take the state of the County into consideration and by your orders put it in the power of some person or persons to Give such Relief to the Exposed Frounteers as may seem Just and Reasonable, there hath been several pieces of mischief done by the Indians in Mason County and toward the Lower part of the District; Some killed others wounded, some taken who hath escaped, and a number of horses stolen. 1789. June 2d

I have the honour to be, with Great Esteem,

Y'r Very H'le Serv't.

The following are the recommendations above refer'd to: June 2d

WOODFORD COUNTY COURT, June 2d, 1789.

Thomas Herndon, Sam'l Woodfork, Rob't Saunders, John Finnie, Joseph Deleany, Geo. Blackburn, Sam'l Kerkam, James Marshall, Wm. Lindsey, Samuel Grant, Wm. Henry, Benja. Craig, Wm. Thomas, and Thomas Mosely, recommended as Captains; James Finnie, Jeremiah Craig, Jno. Whitaker, Jacob Stucker, Bartlet Scarey, Henry Fields, Jno. Payne, James McBryde, David Florenoy, Thomas Wood, Wm. Trotter, Rich'd Thurman, Elijah Craig, and Richard Taylor, Lieutenants; John Vaughan, Josiah Woldridge, Geo. Gray, Benjamin Berry, Rhodes Thompson, Henry Herndon, Wm. Kelly, Benja. Bledso, James McClure, Thomas Mitchell, Edward Spencer, Reuben Twiman, and Ezekiel Haydon, Ensigns; to take rank as they now stand.

Teste: CAVE JOHNSON, *C. W. C.*

A Copy: JAMES CRAIG, *D. C.*

AT A COURT HELD AND CONTINUED FOR OHIO COUNTY, June 2d

On Tuesday, the 2d day of June, 1789: Present—David Shepherd, Zachariah Sprigg, John Boggs, and Joseph Tumblinson, Gentlemen—

Ordered, That Robert McClure be recommended to the Governor and Council of the State of Virginia as Cornet in a troop of Cavalry to be raised in Ohio County under the Command of Archibald Wood, Lieutenant Commandant of said Company.

A Copy—Test:

MOSES CHAPLINE, *Cl'k O. C.*

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1789. COL. WM. MCCLERNAHAN TO LEYTON WOOD, ESQUIRE.

Sir:

June 2d Botetourt county — In Justice to Colo. George Skillern, who I am informed has received notice from you to attend the next General Court to render an account of Fines or other publick money that might have come into his Hands by virtue of his office for the year 1788, I do hereby certify that I have just reason to know, and verily believe that not a shilling, as aforesaid, was received by him. As I have the Honor to command one Battalion in this County, wou'd only observe that a General Muster was ordered in November, 1788. But, by reason of high water, which was alledged to be the cause, very few attended, so that a Court-martial could not be held, nor cou'd a General return of the militia be made, which rendered it impossible for him to make a report to his Excellency, the Governor, as the Law requires. A Court-Martial was ordered at a futer day, but without success, as there did not officers enough attend to form a Court. The Regimental muster this spring was attended with like success, and as to any prior demand you may have against said Skillern, from his strict attention to his duty as an officer during the whole of the war, I have no doubt of his acquiting himself with Honor.

I am, Sir, your Hu'ble Servant.

A LETTER OF THE SAME IMPORT,

The same date, and, for the most part, the same language, from Lieut. Col. Pat. Lockhart to Leighton Wood, Esq.

June 3d F. WATKINS, CLERK OF PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

I beg leave to refer your Excellency to the amendment to the act mentioned by Mr. Wood, Sec't 2d, and to the copy of the certificate furnished him by Mr. Pendleton for his guide, as also to the auditor's receipts and the notice, from which I trust it will appear that notices ought not to have been entered against me.

With due respect, I am

Your Excellency's Most Obedient, Hu'ble Serv't.

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L. WOOD, JR., SOL., TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. 1789.

Sir:

Mr. Watkins informs me that your Excellency wishes to know the reasons of bringing a motion against him as Clerk of Prince Edward, it seeming he has settled his account of Fees to January, 1788. It is impossible for me fully to enter on this subject in writing for your Excellency at present, tho' I conceive that by the Law passed Octo., 1786, the Clerk is to render an account on the 1st September, in each year, of fees charged or received in the preceding year, &c. In support of his position the Solicttor presents his views. June 3d

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P. SOUTHALL, AUDITOR, TO THE GOVERNOR. June 3d

AUD'R'S OFFICE, 3d June, 1789.

Sir:

I have carefully examined the vouchers on which Sheriffs obtain Credits in their accounts for Taxes, and find no payment made to Bartlett Hawkins for his Pension. Yet, I beg leave to suggest that the payment may have been made and the Pensioner's receipt withheld by some delinquent sheriff.

I am, sir, y'r Hum'e Servant.

PETITION OF JN. BECK, JOHN HENDERSON, June 3d

Rich'd Wells, Charles Wells, Wm. Mamachan, Nicholas Dawson, David Chambers, James Calwald, magistrates in the county of Ohio, represent that at a court held for Ohio county, in June, 1789, James Miller was recommended first on a list of three for appointment as Sheriff. That on the following day the same persons were nominated, Miller, instead of being first, being last in the order of nomination. They consider this last action of the court improper and unjust, and pray that the said James Miller may be commissioned as Sheriff.

WILLIAM OLDHAM, S. I. C., TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA. June 3d

Hon'ble Sir:

By the Late Act of Assembly respecting Sheriffs, I find those Comissioned by the Gov'r and Council are oblidged to Serve one year and *may* serve two, with the consent of the Gov'r and Council. This serves to request your Honor will be so kind to forward that approbation (unless some lawful reason is offered against it) to Jefferson county

Your Honor's mo. ob'd't and very h'ble Serv't.

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1789. A. W. DUNSCOMB, LATE ASS'T COM'R ARMY ACCOUNTS,

June 4th Richmond — Certifies that Capt. John Stokes appears to have been a Prisoner of ware, Exchanged the 1st of May, 1783, and that he had not made any settlement with him, nor issued any final settlement Certificate for Pay or Commutation in his favor. Capt. Stokes entitled to pay till the 1st of May, 1783, altho'he may have been deranged any time previous thereto, and entitled to arrears from 1st May, 1783, to 1st January, 1787.

June 4th JOHN JONES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH.

Brunswick county — Is informed that a motion is to be made against Col. Thos. Edmunds and Colo. Thos. Claiborne as commanding officers of the Militia of Brunswick in my absence, in the year '88, for failing to make a general return of the Militia for the year 1788. Informs the Governor that while the Law of 1785 reinstated these Officers, under the Act of 1786 they were required to qualify to their old commissioners before the first day of May following, or they ware to be considered as having Resigned, which last-mentioned Act did not reach Brunswick until after the s'd first day of May, consequently no officer could qualify agreeable to Law, the time being elapsed.

Upon this fair state of the case, hopes the Hon'l Executive will be pleased to direct the Solicitor to withdraw the motion. He excuses himself for not having furnished the list of Old officers, having had the misfortune of loosing three of his children since he made the promise.

June 4th HENRY BANKS TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

Richmond — In relation to the accounts of Hunter Banks & co., with Mr. Wm. Armistead, the former agent of the State, [Banks] claims that altho' Mr. Wood has calculated the interest at different periods, 'tis certain, from the view of the acco't, that the whole ought to be estimated from Septem'r 2, 1789, for the subsequent Debits and Credits in Tobacco were only Evidences of the Transaction at the time, without precluding H. B. & co. from the intermediate or back interest whenever a final Settlement should take place, &c.

June 4th COL. GEO. B. POINDEXTER TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

Sir:

Having received notice from the Solicitor-General that he should move for a judgment against me on the 12th June, as County Lieutenant of Militia in the County of New Kent, for the penalty incurred by me for

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failing to account for fines and other monies which have come into my hands by virtue of my said Office. The apology for not executing the law [is that] so small a sum was paid to me [as] barely answered the small contingent expences of paying the Clerk, &c. 1789. June 4th

I have to request your Excellency's Indulgence and to instruct the Solicitor-General to withdraw his motion against me, &c.

I am Your Excellencie's Most Obe't, &c.

COL. ANTHONY STREET TO COL. THOMAS MERIWEATHER. June 5th

Incloses a General return of the Militia of Lunenburg County for the year 1788. States the reasons why he had not made his return at an earlier day, and hopes to be excused by the Executive for his delinquency. Lunenburg county

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PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH June 5th

Offering a reward of fifty dollars for the apprehension of Jett Roach and George Quick, convicted of horse-stealing, and who made their escape from the District Jail at Dumfries.

JAMES SLAUGHTER, SHERIFF OF CULPEPER, TO GOVERNOR B. RANDOLPH. June 6th

Is accountable as High Sheriff for the taxes of 1786 and 1787. Only asks indulgence until next fall for the balance of Taxes due for the year 1787.

COLO. THO. BARBOUR TO THE HON'BLE, THE GENERAL COURT. June 7th

Sir:

I received notice from the Solicitor that he should instruct the Attorney-General to move for Judgment against me as County Lieut't of the Militia in the County of Orange for the sum of One hundred pounds, being the penalty incured by me for failing to account for fines for the year 1788. I have not rece'd a single shilling as Officer of the Militia for that year, which hope will be a sufficient reason with your Hon'rs that I should be exonerated from any fines or forfeitures on that acc't. Also, that he should move against me for not returning the Numbers of Militia for s'd year. Assigns reasons for his failure, and concludes: "Must beg leave without ostentation to say I have endeav'd to comply with the law as far as in my power, Therefore hope to be excused from that Penalty also." Orange county

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1789. J. MADISON, PRESIDENT OF THE C'T OF DIRECTORS OF THE LUNATIC HOSPITAL, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

June 7th Williamsburg The Deficiency of ye Fund for ye support of ye public Hospital in this Place makes it necessary to apply to ye Executive in order to procure from the Treasury such a sum of money as you may be pleased to direct. Mr. Russell will take Charge of ye money and deliver it to ye Treasurer of ye Hospital.

I have ye Hon'r to be,
With ye greatest Respect,
Your Most Obed't Serv't.

June 8th DAVID SHEPHERD, COUNTY LIEUTENANT OF OHIO COUNTY, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Ohio county Agreeable to your Instructions I have Raised the Ranging Company for this County, and from the appearances and the Disposition of the Savage, I have ordered the whole into service with four spies, Since which time no Mischief has Been Done. The people in General Request that two Spies more might be aded if agreable to your Exclency, as the Extent of the County would require it. I have Likewise ord'red the men for General St. Clier, and expect they are In Readiness. I have made a contract for the present year at the Stated price p'r Ration for the Rangers. Many other things which I ought to have Rote with Regard of the County and other matters, I might Beg Leave to Refer you to the Barer, Capt. Conel, which I hope can give you Every Information, Either Sivil or Military, which may be Requsate.

I am, Sir, with Respect,
Your Humble Servant.

June 8th DAVID SHEPHERD, C'Y LIEUT. OF OHIO COUNTY, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

Ohio county With this you will Receive the Statement of the Last year's account with Respect to the Rainging Company that was Raised for the Defence of the County aforesaid. It may appear to be Extravigant, but I can assure your Excellency it was at the price I possibly Co'ld Contract for, as people in general was faithless in Regard to the State's Pay. Had the money been advanced, when the Company was first Raised, it might have been had for the Stated price. The price p'r Ration, at the Time this Contract was made with the Continantle Contractors, was Ten pence p'r Ration, Pen'sylvania Currency, which made it the more Difukelt for me to Ingage a person to Sup'ly the men.

I am, Sir, with Respect, &c.

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THO. BARBOUR, COUNTY LIEUTENANT TO HIS EXCELLENCY, BEVERLY RANDOLPH, ESQ., GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA. 1789.

Sir:

Having now arrived to the age of Fifty years, and agreeable to Law exempted from Militia Duty, have Inclosed to your Excellency my Commission as County Lieut. of the Militia of Orange, June 8th Orange county

I have the hon'r to be,

Your Excellency's Ob't Serv't,

THO. BARBOUR.

CHRIST. GREENUP TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. June 8th

Sir:

I am sorry that my first Official Accounts from this County, I have the Honour to transmit, should contain any disagreeable information; but it is too true that our District is in very great apprehension of being much harrass'd by the Indians this Season, they having made their appearance in Sundry parts on the frontiers—have murdered Several Persons, and stole a number of Horses lately. I know that the frequent application to the Executive must be disagreeable, but our peculiar situation calls for attention. The want of some energetic plan to act on prevents our being in a proper State of Defence. We have Men enough, but no Power. The Commanding Officers of most of the Counties are prohibited to send out Guards, and the Number of Scouts much reduced, in consequence of which the frontiers of this County (which is now near forty miles) has only two Scouts. I hope it is only necessary to hint this to the Executive in order to have the difficulty removed in such a manner as the burthen may fall equal upon all. Danville, Kentucky

I have the Honor to be,

Your Excellency's Obed't Serv't.

P. S.—Inclosed are a few Recommendations of Officers, and I fear some Commissions have miscarried. I have been so lately in Commission that I have collected no returns. Mr. Crockett is to take the place of L't-Colo. McGary, who has Resigned.

AUGUSTUS DENEUVILLE

Presented to the Executive the written opinion of Cary Wyatt that the said Deneuville, being a native of France, in amity with this country, ought to be exempt of all militia duty, and in support of this opinion cites a resolution of the Governor and Council adopted Sept. 4th, 1780, in relation to Mess. Girond & Vial, natives of France and residents of Hanover County, exempting them from Militia and other duties.

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1789. JACOB FAULCON TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

June 8th Has received a notice from the Solicitor for a non-compliance of the law for imposing a tax on Clerk's of Courts of one-third of their fees charged in the year 1787. Was to have rendered [his] account last October, stating the amount of fees charged the preceding year. At which time he had not received any part of said fees, and that to state the amount of fees without having what the law intended to accompany it, he really thought a useless *punctilio*. Much difficulty attends the collection of money at this time. The scarcity is great indeed, at least it is in this poor part of the State.

Last November he paid into the Treasury every shilling of public money then in his hands, and a considerable sum, too, for a small and poor county, and paid it in actual specie, although he could have paid a part of it in warrants. Has sent his account and also a third of the money received for fees, and hopes your honorable Board will instruct the Solicitor to suspend the prosecution of the notice he has given him.

June 9th WM. MARTIN AND JAMES RUCKER, INSPECTORS AT LYNCH'S, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

The new Government having, as we are informed, taken out of the Hands of each State so much of their Revenue as arises by Duties on Imports and Exports, except what is necessary for supporting their Inspection Laws, and the Assembly not having assigned any part of the Duty on Tobacco to that express Purpose, we are at a loss whether to demand any Duties on Tobacco shipped, or what sum; nor have we the means of information, a Point of so much consequence, and for some Time have been acting in a state of uncertainty, which may greatly prejudice us.

This induces us to ask that your Excellency would be pleased to favor us so far as to give us your Direction in this matter, as we wish to discharge our Duty in a Trust which is placed in us by the Public.

We have the Honor to be your Excellencie's, &c.

THOMAS BARBOUR, COUNTY LIEUTENANT OF ORANGE, TO THE GOVERNOR.—RETURN OF THE ORANGE MILITIA, JUNE, 1789.

Regiments, 1; Co'ty Lieuten't, 1; Colonel, 1; Lieut't Colonel, 1; Major, 1; Captains, 9; Lieutenants, 12; Ensigns, 12; Sergeants, 32; Drummers, 3; Fifers, 2; Privates, 684.

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AT A COURT HELD FOR NELSON COUNTY ON THE NINTH DAY OF JUNE, 1789, 1789.

Ordered, That Andrew Hynes and Benjamin Pope, Gen., be recommended to the honorable Executive as fit persons to serve as Sheriffs of said county. June 9th

In Testimony whereof, I, as Clerk, &c.,

ISAAC MORRISON.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE AS TO REMOVAL INTO NEW CAPITOL. June 9th

We have examined the Apartments in ye new Capitol and confer'd with Mr. Hay, one of the Directors, and have reason to believe that the board may be accomodated in the public building by the time of ye expiration of the quarter's rent of the present Council Chamber.

J. McCLURG,
JOS. JONES,
C. BRAXTON.

CATESBY JONES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. June 10th

Sir:

By an act of our Assembly it is ordered there be a light Infantry company to every regiment of militia in each county. The importance in the choice of officers to that company will lead the Hon'ble the executive to be circumspect in the appointment thereof. I presume not, therefore, to suppose a personal application to you will influence your judgment or inclination, but shall feel myself peculiarly happy in meeting your approbation as captain to the light company to be raised in this county, and be assured of my best endeavours to discharge well the trust reposed. Should my pretensions meet your approbation, will be thankfull if [consistent] to have the liberty of recommending the Subaltern officers. Northumberland county

I am, with much esteem and respect, &c.

J. PENDLETON, AUDITOR, TO THE GOVERNOR. June 12th

Sir:

I am informed by the Deputy Clerk of the Court of Hustings in the town of Alexandria that the merchants of that place have failed to renew their Retail Licence agreeable to an Act of Assemble passed Octo., Sess. '86, Chap. xxvi., and that the Commissioners, Richard Conway, James Wren and John Moss, have neglected to proceed against them for the recovery of the fine imposed by that act. I conceive it my duty to communicate this information to your Excellency.

I have the honor to be, &c.

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1789. JOHN KEENE TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

YEOCOMICO, 12th June, 1789.

Sir:

June 12th Yeocomico Being at a loss in what manner to proceed as Searcher, under the present undetermined situation of affairs, I take the liberty of asking your advice, whether I shall be justifiable in making Seizure of such Vessels as are employed from one State to the Other being guilty of an infringement of our expiring State Laws. Should an office still continue to be holden under the new Government at Yeo'o or elsewhere on Potowmack, I beg leave to solicit a place under the presumption that the Executive will have the right of Election, and the profits being adequate to the trouble and expense.

I have the ho'r to be your Excellency's very H'ble Serv't.

June 12th WALT. JONES TO GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH.

Recommends Mr. Catesby Jones for the command of the Company of Light Infantry for this County, Northumberland, being convinced that he possesses spirit, activity and address. Expresses his congratulations on the Governor's present appointment, and hopes that the increase of official Duty will be attended by a corresponding confirmation of his health.

June 12th STEPHEN PANKEY AND OB'D. SMITH TO GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH.

They inform him that they had been notified by the Solicitor that a motion would be made for judgment against them as the Inspectors at R. Ridge and Manchester for the arrears of duties on Tob'co Exported from the said Warehouses Between Oct'r, '87, and Oct'r, 1788. They confess that they are in arrears, owing to the scarcity of money, and the credit as usual extended to the Merchants and other Shippers of Tob'co, and till now have experienced no disadvantage therefrom—asks that the Solicitor be directed to postpone his motion, and have no doubt of their ability soon to pay the Balla.

June 12th GARRITT MINOR, COUNTY LIEUTENANT OF LOUISA COUNTY,

Louisa county Transmits the state of the Militia in his county, and recommends James Poindexter as Ensign, in place of Robert Yancey, resigned.

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CATESBY JONES TO COL. THOMAS MERIWETHER. 1789.

Solicits Col. Meriwether's services to procure for him [Jones] the command of the light Infantry Company to be raised in this County, Northumberland. June 12th Northumberland county

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HARRY HETH TO THE GOVERNOR. June 13th

Incloses M. Reveley's account, stated agreeable to the order of the Executive, which makes a ballance due him £606. 15. 4. Colo. Southall is of opinion that the Committee of Safety made M. Reveley some compensation for his services from May, 1776, to April, 1777, &c. Richmond

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CERTIFICATE OF BENJAMIN JOHNSON, June 14th

One of the justices of the Peace for the County of Orange, that Thomas Barbour, late County Lieutenant of Orange, made Oath before him that he, the said Thomas Barbour, has never received any money into his hands on Acc't of Fines of the Militia of his County, or any other money whatsoever by virtue of his said office. Orange county

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COL. ROBT. JOHNSON TO THE GOVERNOR. June 15th

Informs the Governor that the 2d Day of June being the second court for Woodford county, he rec'd the Governor's letter of the 12th of December by the hand of Gen'l Scott, at which time he expected the Gen'l would qualify to his commission, but found the Gen'l Chose to Postpone takeing the command of the County. Inclosed the Recommendation of the Court for Militia Officers. An acc't came to him of mischief by the Indians in two places. They stole three Horses in a pasture, about two miles from this place on one side, and Killed a Boy, about three miles on the other side; pursued them about thirty miles. Two of the Indians were killed, and the horses retook. Some people Have been killed in Jefferson County since his last letter of the 3d of this month. Woodford county

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1789. AT A COURT HELD FOR PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY,

Jnne 15th Pittsylvania county

The 15th of June, 1789, Beverley Shelton, Gent., is recommended as a fit person to execute the office of a Captain in the militia in the County aforesaid, in the room of Gabriel Shelton, who has resigned; Vincent Shelton, Lieutenant, and Charles Linns, Ensign, William Ward as Captain, Henry Ward, Ensign, Samuel Calland, Lieutenant in Captain Lodowick Tuggles' Company.

A Copy—Teste:

JOS. AKIN, *D. C.*

June 15th Treasury

J. AMBLER, TREASURER, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

It will be necessary for the security of the public Treasury at the new Capitol to protect the windows with Iron Bars. The funds in the hands of the Directors being inadequate to this expence, I would beg the instructions of the Hono'ble Board as to the mode they would recommend for securing the window, and an order to the Auditor to issue a warrant for the amount of the expence.

I have the honor to be, &c.

June 16th

STATEMENT BY HECTOR MCNEILL,

of the Town of Petersburg, accompanied by an affidavit, as to the quantity of salt which had been stored in his warehouse at Petersburg and destroyed by the great fresh which occurred on the 9th of Oct'r, 1786.

June 17th

PETITION OF THOS. VEALE, SAM'L VEALE, WILLIAM KING, WILLIS WILSON AND JOHN KEARNES, JUSTICES OF THE PEACE FOR NORFOLK COUNTY.

They complain that the members of the Corporation of the Borough have obtruded themselves upon them as judges in the County Court; that this corporation has nominated their Sergeant as one of the judges who has taken the Oath and assumed his seat. Thus he may give judgment to-day and execute his sentence to-morrow. They allege that confusion and distraction pervade and have taken deep root in this motley-composed Court; and in conclusion, in the name of the justices and people of the County of Norfolk, pray that the members of the Corporation be removed as Judges from the County Court. Enclosed in the above paper is a letter from a committee of Norfolk County Magistrates and recommendation of Justices by the County Court of Norfolk.

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.—BY HIS EXCELLENCY, JOHN HANCOCK, ESQR., GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. 1789.

I do certify that John Avery, jun., is Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, duly constituted and sworn, and that to his Acts and Attestations, as on this and the annexed paper, full Faith and Credit is and ought to be given, both in and out of Court. June 17th

In Testimony whereof I have caused the Publick Seal of the Commonwealth aforesaid to be hereto affixed this seventeenth day of June, A. D. 1789, and in the Thirteenth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

The annexed paper, referred to above, contains the declaration of William Davis before the hon'ble William Cushing, Chief Justice, and Nath'l P. Sargeant and Increase Sumner, Esq., Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, that James Brown, with force and arms, did on the 24th of November last [1788] dispossess one Solomon Ashbee of his schooner, called the Nancy, then lying near Norfolk in the waters of Virginia, and proceeded by way of Cape Henlopen, Egg harbour, New York, Cow harbour, in Long Island, to Chatham, where the said schooner was taken and the said Brown and myself [Davis] committed to Gaol in Barnstable.

MUHLENBERG, GEO. MATHEWS AND J. PARKER TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH. June 18th

Sir:

We do ourselves the honor of inclosing you a Resolve of Congress respecting the Cession of Virginia to Congress. By this resolution, until measures are taken by the State of Virginia in conformity thereto, the officers of the Virginia line not yet provided with lands may probably be entirely prevented from receiving that compensation which the State so liberally granted them. To you, Sir, as Chief Magistrate of the State, consequently the protector of the rights of your Citizens, we, as part thereof, request your Excellency will please take such steps on the subject as you may deem expedient, to have that justice done to the Officers of the Virginia line which your laws and their claims intitle them to. Being in Congress at this time ourselves, and knowing this subject better, perhaps, than other Officers, emboldens us to make this request, resting ourselves perfectly satisfied that you will introduce the subject to the next session of Assembly, who, I trust, will be as ready as yourself to do justice to your own acts as well as your Citizens who have cause of Complaint. New York

With much respect and esteem, Sir,

Your Most Obed't and Very humbl. Serv'ts.

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1789. The inclosed Resolve of Congress is as follows:

IN CONGRESS, JULY 17TH, 1789.

June 18th *Resolved*, That the executive of the State of Virginia be requested to inform Congress whether there has been any deficiency of good lands reserved by the laws of that State on the south East side of the Ohio for the Virginia troops upon Continental Establishment, and if there has been any deficiency, what is the amount; and also what checks have been provided by the said State to prevent the said troops takeing up more lands than are actually due to them, in order that measures may be taken immediately for laying off for the benefit of such troops a sufficient quantity of good lands between the rivers Scioto and little Miami, and that Congress may be prepared to dispose of the remaining land between those rivers for the general benefit of the Union.

June 18th WM. HAY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

Richmond The officers are now ready, and the Executive Board may move as soon as you give them orders. Mr. John Brown, the Clerk of the General Court, has obtained Mr. Harvie's consent to occupy the appartments provided for him until the offices under the Portico are finished. You will, therefore, take order in this matter as to you appears to be proper.

I have the Honor to be, with great Respect, Sir,

Your most ob. Serv't.

June 18th AND'W HYNES TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Mason Agreeably to your Exellency's orders I herewith transmit you a list of militia officers commissioned by our Court without having their names previously sent to Government. The unsettled and fluctuating state of our inhabitants, with the continual increase of inhabitants, oblige me to again request a considerable supply of blank commissions, especially as the safety of the County, in some measure, requires that new officers should be appointed as soon as possible after the removal of the old ones, or as soon as the increase of people renders the forming of new companies necessary. I am sorry to inform your Excellency that the frequent inroads of the enemy make it indispensably requisite to keep two spies and sixteen rangers continually on our frontiers, and that, notwithstanding our best exertions, they are frequently committing depredations.

The inclosed recommendations of civil officers have, excepting the last, been dispatched for government before, but the commissions have not yet been received, and would take the liberty to request that they, with the necessary supply of blank commissions, may be sent out as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be, &c.

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The following is the enclosed List of Militia Officers appointed by the Court of Nelson, without having their names transmitted to Government: Captains—Thomas Morton in the room of Cuthbert Harrison, resigned; Will. Wilson, Hannaniah Lincoln, David Gilkey, Prestly Gray, Nat. Grigsby, Sam. Willett, Charles Ewing, Joseph Bane, Mat. Walton, Jacob Linden, Jacob Yoder, and Sam. Howard. 1789. June 18th

Lieutenants—Dan'l Linden, Bladen Ashby, Jona'n Boyeth, Miles Harte, Jerem. Masterson, Daniel Terry, and Sam Morton.

Ensigns—Jno. Thomas, Sam Miller, Jno. Herrin, Thompson Briggs, Graves Wepshot, and Jacob Linder.

JOHN EDWARDS TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. June 20th

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you that your letter, dated Dec'r 31st, with the inclosed order of the Executive, never came to hand till the 20th day of March, yet, notwithstanding its late arrival, I was much released from a state of perplexity, and the county in general wishes to return their thanks to the Executive for their care of their frontiers, as hostilities was not so frequent as last year. Bourbon county

I have never ordered out more than Eight Raingers and the two Scouts, who have been constant in service. Since the ninth day of April the raingers has been in service about one month. We had three killed and two wounded since spring. The Indians Lately shew a very Hostile disposition, as they have killed or wounded almost on every frontier in the District. I shall call no more men into service unless the emergency is greater. Col. Lee, from Limestone, has just applyed for men for the Defence of Mason county, as part of Bourbon. I have consented that he may call out a few, which I consider is to be taken out of the proportion allowed for Old Bourbon. He since Informs me that he thinks provisions cannot be furnished them. As I consider myself exonerated from the care of the part of the county, now called Mason, I hope the Executive will relieve me from making any further apportionments of the raingers for the Defence of said County by writing to the Lieutenant of the same, and you may Rest well assured, sir, that every necessary care shall be observed for the prevention of the Expenditure of Publick money by

your most obedient, Hum. Serv't.

GEORGE GILPIN TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. June 20th

Resigns his office of Escheator on account of engagements which conflicted with it, and having understood lately that there is property which is liable to escheat. Gives this information that some person may be appointed in [his] room. Alexandria

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1789. TO GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH.

June 22d At a court held for Cumberland County the 22d June, 1789: Present—John Woodson, Stephen Cocke, John Holman, William Macon, Nathaniel Carrington, and Nelson Patteson, Gent. Justices.

On the motion of John Holman, Gent., one of the commissioners of the taxable property for the said County, it is ordered that Martin Pearce be summoned to appear here at the next court to shew cause why he should not be fined and treble taxed for not rendering an account of his riding chair, with his list of taxable property, to the commissioners. And at a subsequent Court it was ordered that the said Pearce pay the sum of five pounds for refusing to give in to the Commissioners, on Oath, an account of his riding chair with his other taxable property, and the further sum of six pounds, six shillings, being the treble tax on his listed property, together with the costs of the motion, and that the treble tax be certified to the Executive.

June 22d PETITION OF LEWIS JONES, OF THE COUNTY OF CAROLINE,

Praying duplicates of certain Military Certificates lost by him in July, 1786.

June 23d PETITION OF CHARLES HATCHER, OF POWHATAN COUNTY, TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH,

Stating the trial, conviction and pardon of Jim, a slave, the property of the petitioner, charged with Burglary and Rape, and the subsequent trial and conviction of the said Slave for an attempt to commit a rape. Prays the Executive to consider if the second Conviction is legal. Among the papers accompanying the Petition is the Opinion of And'w Ronald, relating to Negro Jim.

June 24th EDMUND RUFFIN, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sir:

I feel myself impelled, tho' reluctantly, to remonstrate against the Proceedings of the Court of Prince George for nominating William Robertson and others in Preference to myself to be Sheriff the ensuing year. You have Documents, I doubt not, to shew that Peter Epes is an Older Magistrate than myself, but he relinquishes his claim to be the next Sheriff.

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I was nominated, and accordingly commissioned as Sheriff upon the Resignation of Nath'l Harrison the 11th day of March, 1780. Nothing but the critical situation in which this State then stood, requiring the speediest collection of the Taxes (for the Courts did no business), could have induced me then to have given up my Seat as a Delegate, and to accept the office of Sheriff; but as great as the Exegencies of my Country were, in 1781, when I had a Right to have expected one Collection, it was suspended by the Governour's Proclamation, the Militia being chiefly called from home to join in the Defence of their Country then invaded. When I was again authorized to the Collection of Taxes, I offered it with all the Emoluments to my Successor, James Field, who refused it, as not worth acceptance. Be kind enough to excuse prolixity, and observe that not till some Time after the Expiration of my short Term as Sheriff was Mr. W. Robertson recommended or commissioned as a Justice of the Peace, and upon this Ground it is that I claim Priority of him. To the Wisdom, Justice and Custom of your hon'ble Board I cheerfully submit this, my Remonstrance, for Decision, under which I shall cordially acquiesce, whether it be *pro* or *con.*, but cannot help observing that should your Determination be in Favour of the Junior Magistrate, I think I may pronounce that were I to remain in the Commission of the Peace for twenty years to come there would always be a Junior Justice between me and the Sherif'alty. 1789. June 24th

I have the hon'r to be,
With m'ch Respect,
Y'r mo. obd't Serv't.

WM. BOWDEN TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH. June 27th

Returns thanks for the Indulgence granted Respecting Louis De Sigougne's matter, which Indulgence has enabled him to pay the Demand *vs.* him. King and Queen county

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T. MERIWETHER TO GOVERNOR RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Various motives impel me to private Life. I therefore notify to the Hon'ble, the Executive, that it is my intention to resign my present appointment from Government at the end of the quarter. The indulgent and polite treatment I have experienced from your Excellency particularly, and the Board generally, has made a strong and grateful impression on my mind, and claims my warmest thanks, which I beg you and them to accept.

I am with the truest respect and esteem, &c.

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1789. June 27th — Inclosed in the above is a paper from the Governor and Council, expressive of regret at the resignation of Col. Meredith, and concludes: "In justice to your merits, we feel ourselves bound to express our perfect satisfaction with your conduct in discharge of the Duties assigned you." Also a letter from Col. Sam'l Coleman, soliciting the office vacated by the resignation of Col. Meriwether.

June 28th — JAMES BARNETT, LIEUT'T, OF MADISON COUNTY, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Madison county Kentucky — Upon my return to this District, which was about Ten days ago, from Amherst, I found the Indians very Troblesum to the Fronteers of the Different Counties. The 26th Instant they came to a frunteer house in Madison in the Dusk of the Evening, shot one of the man's Daughters threw the Body, and another threw the Clothes. The family was scarsely able to keep them out of the house. They continued Near the house Till about one and a half hours before Day, when they went off without Doing any other Mischief. The Next Day I sent a party to Inde'vour to trace them up, But Both without Effect. A few days before, about 20 miles Distant, in Lincoln, They Kill'd two persons, wounded aNother, and went off with impunity. A number of other murders have been committed in the District in Different places. I have been Induced to furnish several familys that is most exposed, with Guards, to prevent them from moving in, and it's with Difficulty the Guards can be Got, as they complain the certificate pay is not ediquate to their services and Loss of time from their Crops. It is Generally allowed to the Southward Indians, which is the ag'ressors. Capt. Wm. Whitley, from Lincoln, (a little before the Late Mischief,) followed a party that stole horses within about 40 miles of these towns, and on his way saw a quantity of sine of Indians Making this way, which is seposed to be those that Did the Mischief. What the event of the Summer is to be, God knows. Its Generally thought they are to be a plague to us until they Get a scurg from this District. I shall Take Every such measures as Will be Most Likely to Contribute to the Safety of the people untill I have further Instructions from your Excellency.

Sir, your Excellency's
Most Ob'd't Serv't.

June 30th — PAY-ROLL OF COUNCIL FROM FIRST OF APRIL TO 30TH JUNE.

Mr. Wood, Mr. McClurg, and Mr. Goode, 21 days [each]; Mr. Jones and Mr. Braxton, 20 days [each]; Mr. Heth, 16 days.

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J. AMBLER, TREASURER, TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL. 1789.

Sir:

After setting apart the full amount of money directed by the Hon'bl. Board to be paid to the Scouts and Rangers, the sum of Six thousand pounds remains this day in the Treasury; but as no part thereof belongs to the funds appropriated by Law to the discharge of the Salaries of the Officers of Civil Government, I am not at liberty to pay the Warrants of those Officers without the Instructions of the Hono'bl. Board. June 30th Treasury

I am, with great respect,

Your Excellency's Most Ob't Serv't.

Inclosed in the above paper is the following statement of the Treasurer: Specie in the Treasury on the 31st May, 1789, Ten thousand five hundred pounds, exclusive of the money set apart for complying with the former directions of the Hono'bl. the Executive.

RETURN OF ORDNANCE AND MILITARY STORES June 30th

Under the direction of Elias Langham, Superintendant for the State of Virginia, commencing the 1st day of April, 1789, and ending the 30th of June, 1789, inclusive. Brass Ordnance, viz.: 1 16-inch mortar, 7 18-Pounders, 2 6-Pounders, 6 4-Pounders. Iron Ordnance: 4 24-Pounders, 32 18-Pounders, 7 12-Pounders, 16 6-Pounders, 14 4-Pounders, 6 3-Pounders, 1 2-Pounder, 1 9-inch Howetts. Apparatus for Artilery: Coil slow-match, Gunner's Pouches; also numerous small arms, such as Swords, Pistols, musquets. Ammunition, such as Powder, Balls, and Shot, and all the proper apparatus and materials for the manufacture of arms, and the service of a Magazine. Also Report of Quarter-Master's Stores from 1st of April to 30th of June; also Quarterly summary of Clothing for same period; also Pay-Roll of Superintendent and artificers for the same period; also account of cash expended during same period; also the Pay-Roll of the State Guard of sixteen men for the same period.

PITTSYLVANIA, JUNE COURT, 1789.

Stephen Coleman, Gentleman, is recommended to his Excellency, the Governor, in Council, to be appointed Colonel to the first Battalion in this county, in the room of Abraham Shelton, Gent., dec'd. William Todd, Gent., Lieutenant-Colonel, and Constant Perkins, Gent., Major, to the said Battalion.

A Copy—Teste:

WILL. TUNSTALL, *Cl'k.*

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1789. June Woodford county Kentucky

Ordered, That the following persons be recommended to his Excellency the Governor as proper persons to be appointed Militia Officers for this county, to-wit: Sowel Woldfork, Captain; Samuel Kirkham, Capt.; James Marshall, Capt.; William Lindsey, Capt.; William Henry, Capt.; Benja. Craig, Capt.; William Thomas, Capt.; Thomas Mosely, Capt.; Jeremiah Craig, Lieutenant; John Whitaker, Lieut.; Bartlett Searcy, Lieut.; Henry Fields, Lieut.; John Pane, Lieut.; James McBride, Lieut.; David Florenoy, Lieut.; Thomas Wood, Lieut.; Wm. Trotter, Lieut.; Rich'd Thurman, Lieut.; Elijah Craig, Lieut.; Rich'd Taylor, Lieut.; John Vaughan, Ensign; Jonah Woldridge, Ensign; Benj. Berry, Ensign; Rhodes Thompson, Ensign; Henry Herndon, Ensign; William Kelly, Ensign; Benja. Bledsoe, Ensign; James McClure, Ensign; Thos. Mitchell, Ensign; Edw'd Spencer, Ensign; Reuben Twiman, Ensign; and Ezekiel Hayden, Ensign.

Teste: CAVE JOHNSON, *C. W. C.*

A Copy: JAMES CRAIG, *D. C.*

IN HENRICO COUNTY COURT.

Recommended to the Governor and Council that Ten pounds, balance of a fine imposed on Richard Sharpe, jr., for retailing Spirituous Liquors contrary to law, be remited to him.

July 2d

L. WOOD, JR., SOLICITOR, TO GOVERNOR BEVERLEY RANDOLPH.

Sir:

Richmond Solicitor's Office

I am to request the favour of your Excellency's Order to the Auditor for a Warrant of Thirty-four pounds nine shillings, Balance of expenses in sending out Notices, Executions, &c., previous to the late General Court.

I am, Sir, Your Excell'y's, &c.

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